

Florida

Spin Tackle Battery
Holbrook's Hobby

Fishing • Hunting
• Conservation •

WILDLIFE

March, 1961

The Florida Magazine for all Sportsmen

25 CENTS





FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S FISHING CITATION

is available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the fresh-water game fish of the prescribed species and size requirements. Citation, showing recorded date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of the following application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE _____ Date _____
Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name (please print) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Species _____ Weight _____ Length _____

Type of Tackle _____

Bait or Lure Used _____

Where Caught _____ in _____ County

Date Caught _____ Catch Witnessed By _____

Registered, Weighed By _____ At _____

(Signature of Applicant)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIES

LARGEMOUTH BASS

.....8 pounds or larger

CHAIN PICKEREL

.....4 pounds or larger

BLUEGILL (BREAM)

.....1 1/2 pounds or larger

SHELLCRACKER

.....2 pounds or larger

BLACK CRAPPIE

.....2 pounds or larger

RED BREAST

.....1 pound or larger

All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fishing tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK

★
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FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

★
Dedicated to the
Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of Our Game and Fish

★
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GAME BREEDERS SHORT COURSE

FOR THE LANDOWNER who wishes to develop more game, something new is being offered at the University of Georgia at Athens. A three-day short course on the "Management of NATIVE and PEN-RAISED GAME" will be held for the Southeast at the Center for Continuing Education.

The course is designed for the layman and not the biologist. It is a practical course on how the average to large landowner can increase his game through sound management. Some of the nation's top experts will be on the program.

The first day and a half will be devoted to native game. Registration starts on Sunday, April 9, and an evening of wildlife movies will be shown. The first day of the formal sessions, April 10, will be devoted entirely to native quail. One of the speakers is Herbert L. Stoddard, Sr., the world's foremost authority on bobwhite quail. He is author of the quail "Bible" and has had 40 years field experience.

O. Earle Frye, Jr., assistant director of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, will be on the program with a panel discussion of when and when not to use feeders. Frye is co-author, along with Robert Murray, of "Management of the Bobwhite Quail in Florida."

Other topics will cover the use of bicolor lespedeza, how management affects hunting, the farmer and wildlife, proper feed planting and cover development. Each speaker is allowed roughly one hour but will limit his talk to about 20 minutes to allow for question and answer sessions. There are long breaks between talks so that those attending will have a chance to complete notes and also to talk over problems with other landowners.

The first half of the second day will have one-hour sessions on managing for doves, waterfowl and wild turkey. While the discussions may

be detailed, they will not be held in technical language but in simple terms which the layman understands.

The second half of the three-day course will be on pen-raised game with emphasis on quail. There will also be a discussion on advanced kennel management. Other subjects will include shooting preserve management, game bird diseases, incubation and brooding of game birds, and research on game birds.

Speakers from 12 states will be on the program and are coming from such distances as Louisiana, Missouri, and Illinois in addition to the Southeastern states.

The short course, in one sense, is an experiment to see how landowners will attend and the response from landowners. If the course is successful it may lead the way to other states having similar courses each year.

One reason for the course is the expanding population and increasing difficulty of hunters having places to hunt and game to shoot. While state-owned and managed land and commercial shooting preserves take care of much of the hunting pressure, a great part of the future of hunting in America lies with the private landowner. If he has the land and money and the in-

terest to develop more game, then he will take care of a certain percentage of hunters. Another purpose of the short course is to see that landowners are grounded in basic principles of wildlife management and in their practical application.

The short course is sponsored by the University of Georgia, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Game and Fish Commission, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Wildlife Management Institute and the Sportsmen's Service Bureau.

Those setting up the program realized that many would want to attend only the native game session or only the pen-raised day-and-one-half. One registration fee, \$6.00, covers the whole or any part which one wishes to attend.

A complete program and registration blanks are available by writing: John Mills, Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. The huge, modern Center is similar to a convention hotel; rooms are in the Center with lecture rooms, an auditorium, restaurant, coffee shop and other facilities.

According to Mills, about 200 landowners from a dozen states are expected for the short course. A summary of each talk has been prepared in advance and a collection of these, in book form, will be presented to each person registering. ●

SEEDS AND SEEDLINGS NOW AVAILABLE AT COST

FLORIDA LANDOWNERS may now obtain seed and seedlings for wildlife food plantings at cost-price from the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Landowners desiring such planting materials should immediately forward their orders to R. W. Murray, Game Biologist, Route 1, Chipley, Florida. Payment by check made out to the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission should accompany the order.

Prices are \$5.00 per thousand for Thunbergii lespedeza seedlings, seventy-five cents per pound for partridge pea seed, and forty-eight

cents per pound for common lespedeza seed.

The Commission formerly distributed such planting materials free of charge. However, the Commission has found that a better quality of wildlife plantings, and a better usage of the planting materials, will be accomplished if the materials are made available at cost. The policy to charge a cost-price for planting materials was recently set at a formal meeting of the Commission.

Information about planting the material may be obtained from the Commission or the State Soil Conservation Service. ●

Clubs and Conservation

Gun Classes

Some 300 youngsters heard the principles of firearms safety at a familiarization course conducted by the Duval County sheriff's office. Aimed at giving the youngsters a good start with their Christmas guns, the program covered information that applied to everything from BB rifles to shotguns. The school was divided into two classes and parents were urged to attend. It was "standing room only" in the auditorium. Members of the force pointed out that the course covered only the basic principles of safety and was a "one-shot affair" but had proved so successful that more sessions are being planned for the future. A similar post-Christmas program was held by the Gainesville Police Department.

Boating Conference

A national conference on boating problems is being held in connection with the Chicago National Boat Show, March 24 to April 2. Sponsored jointly by the Outboard Boating Club of America and the Sport Fishing Institute, the group will concentrate on facilities and access to waters for recreation. This year's boat show was expected to attract more than 350,000 persons and for the first time fishing tackle was displayed.

Northwest Association

At a recent meeting of the Northwest Florida Wildlife Association in West Bay, it was voted to send a letter to Governor Farris Bryant asking that legislation be enacted to take outboard motors and boats for outboard power out of the personal property category—since they are now registered with the state upon payment of a fee. The motion made by Max Horne suggested that boats

should now be in the same category as automobiles insofar as personal property tax is concerned.

Camping Recommendations

A proposal that a windshield sticker or stamp, costing \$5 and available through local postoffices, would entitle any family to the right to camp in any National Forest during the year and aid in footing the bill for adequate camping facilities was recently made by Representative Joseph W. Barr. Barr, who is from Indiana, made an extended camping tour of much of the United States accompanied by his wife and their five children. He noted many of the problems of public campsites and specifically recommended that more campsites be set up in especially scenic areas rather than making attempts to "flossy up" existing sites. He believes locations on streams or lakes are especially important. A detailed account of the Barr trip and his observations was contained in *Outdoor America*, official publication of the Izaak Walton League of America.

Mosquitoes & Wildlife

An effort to coordinate the efforts of mosquito control activities and those of fish and wildlife conservation is to be made by a national committee known as the National Mosquito Control-Fish and Wildlife Management Coordination Committee. Chairman of the group is Robert L. Vannote, national adviser to the American Mosquito Control Association. Objectives of mosquito



Materials submitted for judging in connection with the Florida Wildlife Federation's award program are shown here being examined by Mrs. Flo Anderson, secretary of Conservation Extension Section, Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission. The materials seen in the picture are results of the conservation education program carried out by Mrs. Aleene S. Franz of Vernon, Florida, art supervisor for Washington County. Mrs. Franz received an award for her outstanding work.

control programs are sometimes in opposition to the desires of fishermen and wildfowl lovers. The committee is intended to bring about cooperation between the two movements.

Hughes Sketches To Camp

Fifteen original sketches by Wally Hughes of the Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission have been framed for hanging at the Youth Conservation Camp near Ocala. The sketches cover types of Florida wildlife and most of them have appeared in Florida Wildlife magazine.

Other news from Ocala includes the completion of the camp well and the announcement that the training week for camp counselors will be June 4-10. Bernard Dykes will not return as camp director for the 1961 season.

Free Want-Ads

Outdoorsmen with articles to trade or sell may have them offered free in the Florida Wildlife Federation Newsletter, according to President Hubert W. Robertson. The "Newsletter" address is 1600 South West Fourth Street, Fort Lauderdale. ●

THE COVER Lemon Bluff, on the St. Johns River, is hailed by many as the Shad Fishing Center at Florida. Not quite as well known in fishing circles as the St. Johns, but an increasingly popular shad fishing site, is the Chipola Cutoff on the Dead Lakes in Northwest Florida, shown on the cover. February and March are the months for shad fishing in Florida.

Cover Photo by Wallace Hughes

FISHING



BY
CHARLES
WATERMAN

ROWING A BOAT is nearly a lost art. I have several fishing friends who look at oars with apprehension and once they do pick them up, they sound like a construction project under a waterfall. Needless to say, their progress is a little irregular.

The fact remains that for some kinds of fishing, the oarsman in the middle and an angler in each end of the boat is an ideal combination. But few fishing boats are bought with oarlocks these days and I suppose the last pair of oars will eventually end up in a museum along with shrunken heads and Indian war clubs.

I've been through most of the substitutes and I love a little 3-horse motor for some kinds of maneuvering. In fact, I've used the little electrics, too, and they all have their place but for bass fishing and pan-fishing as well as all kinds of shoreline and river angling for salt water varieties, I want a pair of oars.

Most of us fish most of the time from outboards of twelve to 20 feet in length and admittedly the outboard hull made for high speed planing isn't ideal for manual transportation but you can *maneuver* a bigger boat than you think with little effort.

If you're working a shoreline, dropoff or patches of vegetation you can guide the boat, letting the wind or current furnish most of the propulsion. About the only time you really have to work is in retrieving a hung-up lure so oars are useful on pretty big boats.

Looking at a new model of 16-foot fishing boat recently, I got quite a laugh when I asked how it would row.

"Not this one," the builder said.

"This boat is a full 60 inches wide."

When he found out I was serious, he proposed a variety of plans ranging from cutting holes in the sides for the oars to go through (like those old Spanish galleys) to a stand-up platform from which to man them. He swore the oars would have to be too long for anyone short of the Steve Reeves type and certainly unavailable at the marine supply houses.

On the contrary, the boat turned out to be very easily rowed. You'll see it in the illustration. The oars are 8½ feet long. The oarsman sits facing forward and while he isn't going very fast to anywhere and isn't about to buck a lot of wind or current, he can work a shoreline with smooth efficiency. This boat is long enough for a caster fore and aft and even a mild sideswipe isn't dangerous. Jason Lucas once said that the battleship Missouri is just a little too short for two casters to work

at once but Lucas simply doesn't like crowds.

Few anglers give much thought to the oars. For the 12 or 14-footer, I'm inclined to favor pinned oarlocks—the kind with the oars fastened in. With one of these outfits there is no danger of losing an oar if you put it down for a few minutes and really hard pulling is seldom necessary with so small a craft.

A real oarsman (and there aren't many) is likely to cuss the pinned oars but most of us will like them . . . on small boats, that is.

For larger boats, I'd rather have the oars "loose in the lock" but I prefer some sort of gadget to keep them from sliding through. On a 16-footer, I'm now using "Sav-ors," a sort of rubber collar gadget with a high ridge to keep the oar from sliding out. Still, they can be removed instantly.

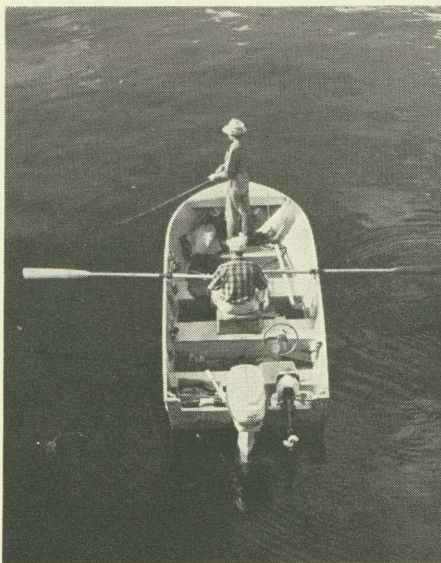
I've used oars on boats up to 20 feet without difficulty.

Rowers make a lot of unnecessary noise, generally because the oarlocks don't fit their sockets, the oars don't fit the locks and the oil is up front in the tackle box. The price of a tank of gas would fix all of these things.

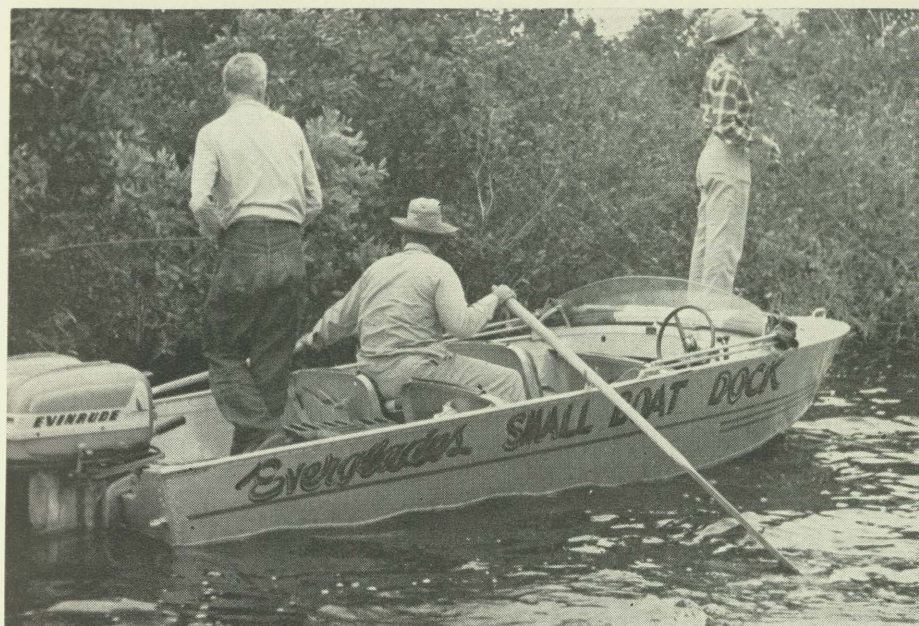
Smallmouth—Bigmouth

Many an angler transplanted to Florida bemoans the absence of the smallmouth bass he was brought up with in the north. As he remembers them, they fought harder, tasted better and jumped higher. He is likely to get an argument from those who favor the largemouth.

Others say that if you put the largemouth and the smallmouth in



A 16-foot Orlando Clipper fishing boat isn't too big to row if the oars and locks are suitable.



Eight foot oars are used with this 16-foot guide boat, for careful working along the mangroves and through narrow waterways.

the same waters and they both survive, there will be little difference in their habits and fighting qualities. Wherever I've caught the two fish in the same waters, they have been similar in their habits. I must concede that the smallmouth had a little more power and didn't tire so quickly but the largemouths seemed more prone to hit surface lures and jumped oftener—if not quite so high.

Nevertheless, the smallmouths ran smaller and in the warmer lakes they were different fish from those I've caught in cold rivers. The monster smallmouths caught in the big impoundments are, for the most part, landed from very deep water with less sporting methods than those used for our Florida bass.

So far, there has been no proof that smallmouth bass can survive in Florida waters. Although I can see the fun in fishing for smallmouths in cold northern streams, I don't feel that we need them in our warmer lakes and rivers. I have a hunch that if they DID thrive there (and most biologists believe they never could) they would simply act like undersized specimens of what we already have.

Visibility

Roy Martin, the Panama City Beach record buster, recently sent me a leader package as a gag. The package, which bore an inscription stating the leader within was invisible, was completely empty. Reminds me of some of the visibility arguments I've had in the past.

For example, one angler staunchly argues that you should use a black line in dark water stained by tannic acid. From above, and perhaps from the side, he may be right, but against the sky from beneath, the black stuff shows up very clearly indeed.

Big lures don't require delicate terminal tackle. A fish about to wallop a 6-inch lure isn't nearly as persnickity as one approaching a little, 1-inch jig. Unquestionably the near-invisibility of monofilament line has contributed greatly to the success of light spinning. Monofilament leaders attached to baitcasting lines are considered a great help by some. In fishing for bass, I never saw a great deal of difference but I won't argue about it.

A bonefish bombarded by a small jig or fly on a too-heavy line or leader will hasten yonder. The same

fish will munch contentedly on a still-fished hunk of shrimp attached to a tuna-sized leader with a big snap swivel.

In casting for fish that are likely to cut line, many anglers have replaced wire traces with heavy monofilament. They explain the mono is less visible and more flexible. The latter point I agree with and I prefer mono, myself. However, I used to use very light wire as a short tippet when fly-fishing for snook and its diameter was so tiny it was practically invisible in the water—except for reflections of light. A piece of mono capable of withstanding the same amount of chewing was heavy and carried a big, splashy knot.

Probably the light reflecting qualities are even more important than diameter, though. And probably the effect on lure operation is most important of all. A heavy, kinked leader will ruin the action of delicate lures.

Handle Problems

Usually ignored in the selection of fishing rod, the handle shape has a lot to do with whether you enjoy using your outfit or not.

Most frequent offender is the spinning rod handle with the abrasive rings and clamps. (Look at the spinning rod handles with the beautiful cork grips you never touch.)

Generally, I have found handles of fairly large diameter to be much more comfortable over the long haul, even though small grips are attractive in the tackle shop. I have one heavy fly rod with so small a handle that I had to decorate it with black tape. It now looks like part of a tool kit but I can fish with it.

I ran into a real perfectionist the other day and he let me wave one of his fly rods for a few seconds. It had a carefully whittled cork grip—shaped exactly like a hammer handle. It felt wonderful.

"Did you ever try to work with a perfectly round hammer handle?" he asked. I hadn't.

"The casting motion is the same as that of hammering," he said.

(Continued on Page 39)

BOATING



BY
DON
CULLIMORE

OCALA NATIONAL FOREST sprawls across central Florida at the point where the peninsula's neck narrows into a mere hundred-mile width from east to west coasts. Almost a third of this distance, along a diagonal line from Daytona Beach on the Atlantic to Yankeetown on the Gulf, is taken up by the forest. In length it ranges up to 40 miles, and in area encompasses 360,000 acres. This makes it sound like a pretty considerable chunk of land. It is.

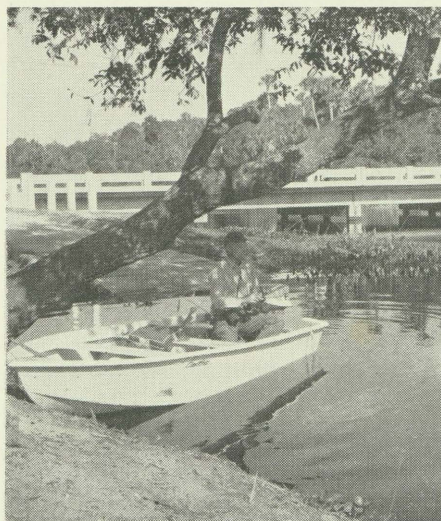
To the north and west it is bordered by the Oklawaha River; to the east by the St. Johns and Lake George, and to the south by Florida Route 42. On the interior it is primarily pine forest, interspersed by marshlands, lakes, springs and spring-fed streams whose origin and courses are characterized by subtropical growth. There is even salt water. It bubbles up surprisingly in the heart of the freshwater country at Salt Spring and flows into the St. Johns.

While thousands of persons boat and fish in the Oklawaha and St. Johns rivers on its perimeter, comparatively few penetrate into the interior lakes and streams of the forest, and only a handful ever savor one of the most unique and rewarding boating trips in the state—a canoe float down Juniper Spring branch.

Juniper Springs is reached on hardtop, marked road that extends northward about a quarter-mile from State Route 40, 28 miles east of Ocala—or, if you're coming from the other direction, 12 miles west of Astor. The Forest Service facilities there include tent and trailer camp grounds, an "aquarium" in a natural spring-fed fishbowl, picnic tables, a shelter house and lavatories. Still standing is the old mill, and still turning (for scenic pur-

poses only, now) is the picturesque undershot mill wheel. The spring flows 8,500,000 gallons daily, has a temperature of 72 degrees. Swimming is permitted in the spring.

You may either rent a canoe at the Forest Service camp, or bring your own. Arrangements can be made to have your car transported for pickup of the canoe at the end of the float, 12 miles downstream at a roadside park and ramp on Florida Route 90. Fifteen and 17-ft. canoes are used, the latter is about the maximum length that will slide around the sharper bends. We had thought also of taking a light 14-ft. fishing boat, which I'd brought along trailer-wise, as a picture-taking platform, but were advised against doing so and left it behind. I'm glad we did; it would have posed difficulties both in beam and in maneuverability in the tricky, tight and tortuously twisting channels of the upper reaches of the spring run. Later, however, it came in mighty useful in the lower stretches—below the usual canoe take-out point—where the stream broadens and outboard use becomes practical.



Route 19 bridge and launching ramp mark separation point between canoe-float country, upstream, and outboarding waters extending downstream to the St. Johns River.

We boarded the canoes on a path that led to a picturesque rustic bridge a short distance downstream from the mill, and floated off under a canopy of overhead branches in a channel so confined that for a considerable distance it was possible to touch the bank on either side with extended paddle. One paddle was of oak, one was of ash. The oak paddle appeared to gain weight with every stroke. First chance that offered, I surreptitiously swapped for the lighter ash, thereby eliciting screams of rage from my 16-year-old daughter Sharon, who immediately detected the substitution. We swapped back.

The current of Juniper Spring run is smooth and strong, but hardly "fast" in the sense in which canoe water is rated. There are no cascades. With a bit of instruction and practice en route, a novice at canoeing can negotiate it, although there'll be times when the "set" of a tributary spring flow (additional springs feed into the Juniper run) may shove you into a bank or protruding tree-trunk. Even so, there's little danger of a spill; and if you dump, it'll net nothing worse than a wetting. The stream varies from narrow and moderately deep holes—some perhaps eight feet or a trifle more—to sandy shallows. The two Sharons—mine and her tennis-team partner, Sharon Diner of Jacksonville—were cautioned to keep their hair parted in the middle and their centers of gravity low. After "center of gravity" was translated into more recognizable anatomical terms, we had no problems.

We had been briefed on the trip by U. S. Forest Service personnel, whose task it is to manage the various national forests "to yield timber, forage, water, wildlife and recreation for people," and which works co-operatively with the State Game

& Fresh Water Fish Deartment in those areas where their interests coincide. The "recreation" aspect is worth noting, because while national forests always have been to some extent considered recreational areas, and some facilities provided, it is only recently that this has been emphasized as a major objective of the program. An expansion of facilities is planned in this and other forests.

It's large-mouth brass and bream water. The bass we caught didn't run big by any standards—the largest would have fallen just short of three pounds—but they've the activity that's characteristic of these species when caught in cooler waters. And, if you like water that's a real challenge in terms of casting skill and landing technique, you'll get a big thrill in the upper two-thirds of Juniper Run.

For the first four or five miles, fishing poses a compounded problem because of the constantly twisting narrow channel and the proximity of trees, branches and vines on either side and overhead. This restricts your aim to short, flat casts. The speed of the current is such that you're frequently almost on the lure before an effective retrieve is possible. A skilled paddler, of course, can maintain the craft in almost motionless position during the retrieve.

The upstream end pointed up our physical agility—or lack of it—when a succession of fallen trees across the stream put us on our knees in a prayerful position; at one of these I failed to withdraw my own stern protrusion adequately below the level of the gunwales. Result: it came in prolonged and somewhat painful contact with a dangling branch of very tough and very sharp thorns. The Forest Service attempts to keep these impediments cleared away; they noted the presence of the fallen trees and offending thorns, and promised to see that they were removed later.

The better fishing conditions came further downstream, about a third-way of the total float distance. Gene Kaufman of the Forest Service, who was reared in these parts, told us



Despite the sign, there's little chance of getting lost in Juniper Spring Run. Light 7½-h.p. outboard was usable only in lower end of the 12-mile float.

that most folks concentrate on scenery and the fun of being afloat in the upper stretches, and save their fishing until the brush thins out a bit. Timewise, this is sensible. The 12-mile float can be accomplished in three hours. We spent five, and then foreshortened the time because of a pesky set of rain clouds that persisted in hanging overhead in the last few miles. My recommendation would be to plan five or six hours, if you're going after real relaxation and a fair amount of fishing.

Most adaptable tackle in these waters is a casting rod of five feet or less, with the old-fashioned thumb-checked reel a fabric line of 10-lb. or heavier test. Second preference would be a spinning or spin-cast equipment, again with strong line that permits considerable drag tension, and using a rod that is capable of flat and straight casts to stay under the branches. Strong line is required because of the weeds and roots and other growth; there's many a place where the fish must be "horsed" to be held.

On the middle of the float, we found the waters more open—although still confined to the point where flat and accurate casting is essential. On the last four miles or

so before the takeout point at the Route 19 bridge, the stream broadens and open casting is possible. A short fly-rod is practical in the middle sector—say, a 7 or 7½-footer—but takes expert handling with considerable resort to roll and spey-casting, to stay out of overhead brush.

Our best success, on a warm autumn day, was with top-water injured minnow lures. Most of the fishing was perforce done in early afternoon. Popping bugs on a fly rod brought swirls of interest but little striking action. My intention to try these along in the flat of the evening was thwarted by a down-pour of rain.

The next day, we launched the fishing boat at the very excellent concrete ramp at the Route 19 crossing and found that a low-horsepower motor was practical for several miles up and downstream. Leave the motor tilt-lock open; go slow and read the water to stay in the channel where's there's sufficient depth; be prepared to cut the engine speed and tilt the motor manually on the shallows. Weeds will have to be cleared frequently from the lower unit, and a heavy knife comes in

(Continued on Page 33)



Garcia medium-weight rod and Heddon manual reel used on speckled perch with 1/8-ounce bucktail.

Here are some facts
to back up the
claims that spinning
will do anything
the average angler wants

By CHARLES WATERMAN

SPIN TACKLE BATTERY



Ultra-light outfit, employing tiny rod and miniature Langley reel.

MY HEART ISN'T IN THIS. I am just writing it for money.

I am going to describe a complete battery of spinning rods intended to cover the whole field of Florida fishing from bream to sailfish.

I've always said a good fisherman should know fly casting, plug casting *and* spinning but some anglers say spinning will do anything and they want to prove it. I herewith intend to help them try and if we get away with it, I'll be mighty proud of the whole project.

This effort is the result of considerable research. I've asked a lot of people about spinning tackle and they wholeheartedly disagree on many subjects. But some of this stuff is pretty straight.

I figure you can do the job well with five spinning rods. You can do it pretty well with two but a real spinning nut wouldn't be satisfied and I wouldn't either, even though I'm not the spinning kind of nut.

Let's go ultra-light to begin with. Ultra-light tackle of any kind is generally a handicap to the fisherman but it may be a lot of fun as long as it's held within reason.

Ultra-light spinning generally involves two to 4-pound test line, lures of one-eighth ounce or less and a very light rod. It is in selection of the rod that most of the feuding begins.

Bob Wallace, the custom rod maker of Clearwater,



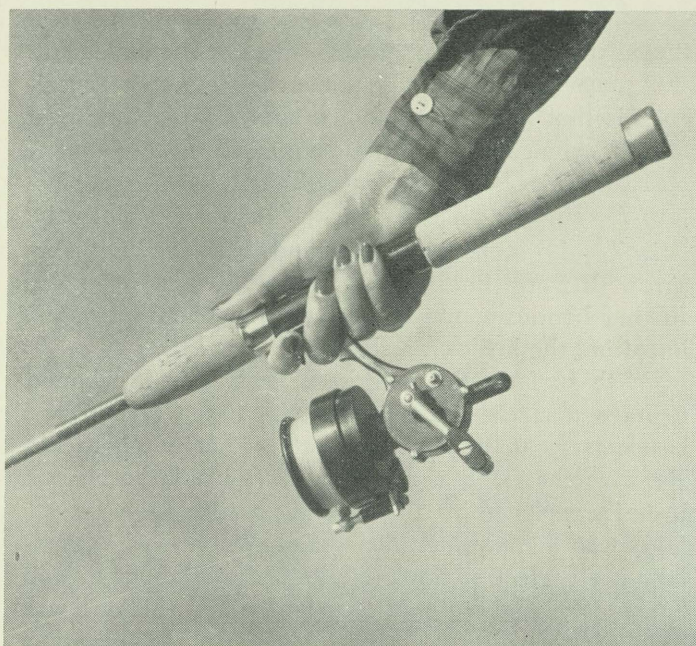
Some spinning rod handles showing the variety of reel seats available. Strongest type is least likely to be adjustable.

says the most frequent mistake in ultra-light spinning tackle is use of a rod that is too short. With a tiny lure, says Bob, you need rod length to give leverage in casting. The rod must be whippy in any event. The very light tip is necessary in a true snap cast but he says true snap casting is well nigh impossible with really light lures and I go along with him.

But it's human nature to want a light outfit to look like a light outfit and lots of lovers of ultra light, itty bitty spinning tackle show up with four or 5-foot rods you can barely feel in your hand. So what if they don't cast as well as Bob's 7-footer? It's light and it shows it. It's kinda' fun for them to feel they're catching fish with a nice, precise toy.

The miniature spinning reels—with small spools—have some advantage with light lures. The small loops tend less toward rod slap. Probably the best known are the little Langley and the Alcedo Micron. Orvis sells a small one and there are others—fine for 2-pound line. Of course, you know there are some fanatics in this field who use 1-pound line.

In Florida, these cobweb lines are going too far—and maybe they're going too far every place else, too. I'd say that for real light tackle efforts a light, 6½-foot rod and 4-pound test line is sensible, efficient and dainty enough to display your skill. You can use either a miniature reel or a medium-sized one like the Orvis 100. Almost any spool will carry enough of the 4-pound stuff to keep you happy. This is fine for bream, good at bumping the bottom for speckled perch, heavy enough for bass or salt water trout in



Photos by Charles Waterman

The husky Centaure Pacific reel is a middleweight salt water model, shown here with a middleweight Bal-Rod.

open water and fun for the lesser salt water fish like ladyfish or mangrove snappers.

Just any old knot may do in heavy monofilament but when you get down to the really light stuff, you'd better learn one that retains a maximum of your line strength.

Playing a fish on light stuff is generally a matter of learning just what it will stand and tying your line to a stationary object and "taking a strain" is the most practical way of getting the feel. Most fishermen are surprised at the steady pull needed to break hairlines but they are equally surprised at how easily the stuff will break when jerked. Hairline fishing requires meticulous care and the light line must be examined every few casts. A little abrasion will lose fish and few light lines are near their advertised strength after being dragged over obstacles.

For the all-around fresh water rod to be used on the lighter salt water species, I've gone for something a little stiffer than I used at first. It's about seven feet long and will cast a half-ounce plug. With it I use 6-pound line and a reel in the same class as the Orvis 100 or Heddon manual. This set-up will catch a lot of bass, isn't too unwieldy for bream and is capable of landing bonefish and small tarpon or snook.

This is the all-around spinning rod if such a thing exists. It will get the most out of a quarter-ounce jig, feels good with small spoons and is the chosen tool of those who like to tickle the bottom with plastic worms. The Orvis 100 will hold about 250 yards of 6-pound line. That's really about enough. If a long-running fish gets out that far almost anything can break the

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line as the water drag is heavy—even on monofilament.

I may be starting an argument but my own experience is that not many fish are landed after they peel off more than 200 yards of 6-pound line.

Now, this “average” rod will not be too satisfactory for surface plugs that must be worked violently. It isn’t quite stiff enough for loud “popping” with big lures. If your line happens to be stretchy you are further handicapped—both in working your plug and in setting the hook on a slack line strike.

With surface plugs worked slowly you are bound to have a slack line much of the time. A stiff rod is necessary to tighten it quickly. That is where rod No. 3 comes in. It is not my favorite pole because it is easily replaced by a baitcasting outfit.

It was the aforementioned Bob Wallace who handed me a perfect example of No. 3 the other day. Bob is noted for making rods on purpose and this one was built for throwing good-sized surface plugs—or other lures that offer heavy resistance on the retrieve.

The length of such a weapon is not critical but 6½ or seven feet is pretty good. It will not snap-cast with light lures if built for ⅝-ounce stuff as Bob’s model is. Bob intended it for salt water use on speckled trout, snook, tarpon and redfish and he has been using darter-type plugs on it.

If you go to it directly from your “average” rod, you will have trouble with your accuracy at first. This rod must not be picked carelessly because, if you get it *too* stiff casting will become a chore. It *will* make the big surface baits perform if used with fairly heavy line. Ten-pound test or even heavier is okay.

A medium-sized or salt water spinning reel will work. Bob is partial to Centaure reels and uses the

“river” model a lot. The Centaure “Pacific” is not out of place however. A lot of line is not often needed for snook or trout fishing and capacity is generally less important than reel strength.

Used for bass, the stiff rod is fine for big plugs and comes in handy for dragging all sorts of stuff through eel grass, bonnets and coontail moss. Any burly bigmouth who expects to swim back under a snag with your plug will get a crick in his neck because you can really lean on him with No. 3.

Now let’s get this straight. Rod No. 3 is primarily made to take the place of baitcasting tackle. It is a rod I seldom use myself. I tried one on a trip to the Bahamas and found it good medicine for outsized barracuda and other odds and ends around the reefs. I was using Zara Spooks, Ted Smallwood darters and Heddon Lucky Thirteens—all weighing around ⅝ ounce. It also handled a big ding-fod weighing a full ounce and a quarter.

My reason for using it instead of a baitcasting rod was the added line capacity of the big spinning reel. I didn’t know what might come boiling up off that reef. In that particular spot, I could see a real home for No. 3.

On this one, you’ll need a rugged handle and it should have a rigid reel seat, preferably with good-sized cork handles both above and below. Bob Wallace’s rod has a counterbalancing weighted handle. You’ll often want to rest the handle on your belt buckle if you use it for heavy fish.

It is good for shoreline bass fishing although it

A light spinning outfit in action over a deep hole in the Everglades.



takes some practice for accuracy. For light trolling, it is hard to beat, even up to snook and kingfish if you keep the lures reasonable in size.

I don't recommend getting a cheap rod for this one. The job is tough and it isn't a popular model. Guides should be of the best quality.

Most of us are poor judges of a rod's stiffness until we actually fish with it. I know I am. This is an easy one to get fooled on if you just waggle it in a store so be careful with the purse strings until you're sure.

Rod No. 4 is easier to select. It's simply a trolling rod for use with a spinning reel and needn't be much different from that used with conventional, turning-spool reels. A number of charter boat skippers have been using heavy spinning outfits in trolling for kings, mackerel and sailfish too, for that matter. This rod requires a big reel with lots of capacity. Weight is a minor consideration and a sturdy drag and husky handle are important. Your guides must be good to handle heavy mono at high tension.

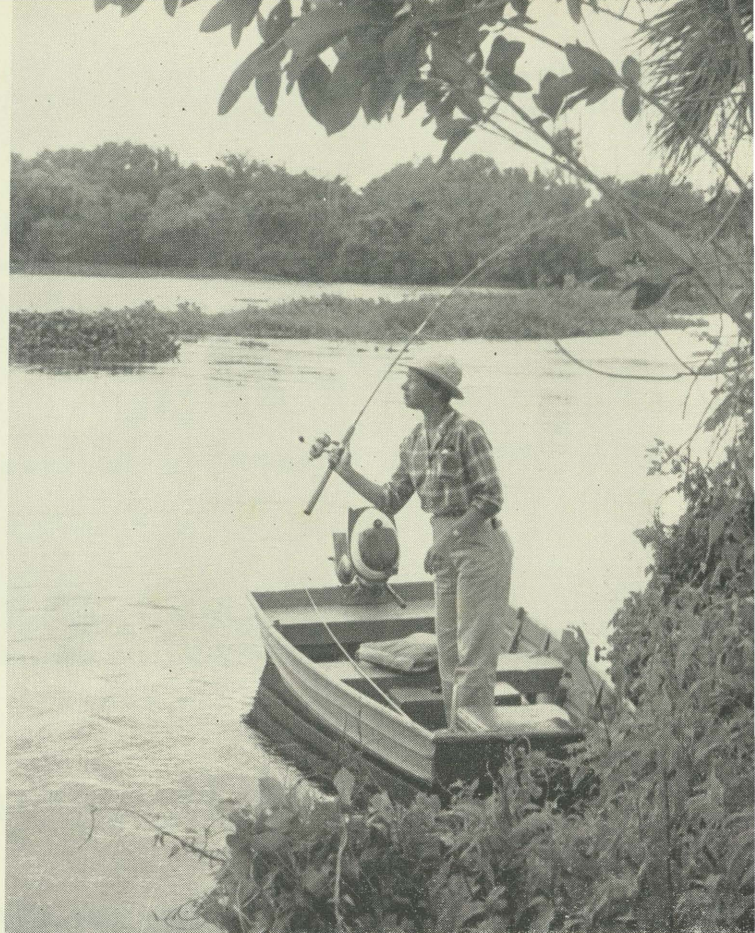
You can use this one for bottom fishing but it takes both hands and a heavy weight for casting. I see no use for it in fresh water.

There are some premium-priced, heavy tackle spinning reels made for wrestling the real heavy-weights like marlin and tuna. For the spinning specialist they are lovely things and a beautiful example is the Seamaster line made in Miami. There are those who say this is taking spin-tackle out of its class but if you're "all spinning" you needn't put limitations on what you fish for.

We'll touch only briefly on rod No. 5. It would be a true, 2-handed surf rod, something not as common in Florida as a little further north in real striper country. It's long and takes a big reel. It's for 2-handed use and it's the tool of a specialist. It's used for long casts—at bluefish when they cruise the coast, at in-shore mackerel and at cobia or "ling" when they make their April run past the west coast piers as they do at Panama City Beach. Now and then it might be used for cruising snook at Marco or for redfish at one of the big inlets.

There are special jobs that might require something we haven't listed. In bonefishing, for example, I list No. 2 as the best choice. That's the "medium" outfit. If I were picking a bonefish rod for that alone, it would be 7½ feet long and have most of the action in the tip. With that, you have light action for little lures and still have backbone further down to keep your tip high.

The care of spinning rods is simple—unless you're one of those guys who must have all of your rods in one piece. Admittedly, that insures you of getting all the action there is in the stick. However, traveling by air or train poses some problems and even the family car might seem a bit crowded with a couple of 7-footers as permanent residents.



Photos by Charles Waterman

Medium spinning tackle used on a South Florida stream. Reel is a Thomsen and the lure weighs half an ounce.

Some sort of rod case is essential if you travel. Aluminum is fine. Heavy cardboard tubes, properly treated, are quite satisfactory. Because of their out-sized guides, spinning rods take up considerable room so be sure the rod case is big enough.

The place to look for trouble in a heavily-used spinning rod is the ferrule (and the here the one-piece boys will start snickering). The ferrule can work loose—especially if you "whip" a lure. Water gets in and first thing you know it just snaps off. So watch the ferrule. It might not hurt to wipe your rods down when you put them away even though that isn't stylish.

Sticking ferrules are responsible for much rod damage—usually when the rod is put away wet and not taken down. A little corrosion is the villain of the piece and when you try to pull 'er apart, something gives.

Rod fatigue is something you don't hear much about but allowing one to ride for long distances in boat or car in a position where where the tip whips back and forth thousands of times can cause more wear than a lifetime of fishing.

Most spinning rods today are made of hollow glass.

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Whatever the hunting scene, there is always one essential item present—The Sporting Firearm. Without private ownership of firearms, there would be NO public hunting.

The Future of Hunting Depends Upon

HUNTING IS ONE OF THE GREATEST of American traditions. In bygone years the sport provided the pioneers with much of the food and clothing on which they survived. Today, hunting is much more than a means of acquiring a meal. It is one of the finest forms of recreation available to Americans, and is enjoyed annually by over 15,000,000. It is part of "Americana."

But whatever the hunting scene, there is always one essential item present—the sporting firearm. Without the private ownership of firearms, there would be no public hunting.

Private ownership of firearms is being threatened. Proposed anti-gun legislation would so restrict the use of guns by the public that in years to come it is doubtful that there would be much opportunity for the average hunter to take part in his sport. That is . . . unless we can stop the antigun cranks now!

The second article of the Bill of Rights, Constitution of the United States, reads "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." But in spite of this, recent court decisions indicate that the second amendment to the Federal Constitution is only a restriction on the power of the Congress of the United States and does not apply to the various states. So we can no longer reply on our "right to keep and bear arms" to preserve our heritage. We must now rely on . . . ourselves.

Anti-gun lobbyists are constantly at work. Many hunters are not aware of the supreme efforts of other shooter-sportsmen in preventing enactment of anti-

THE GUN

By **ALAN S. KRUG**

Reprinted from **VIRGINIA WILDLIFE**

gun laws in the past. These preservers of hunting rights need your help.

Consider last year's Pennsylvania Senate Bill 412. It pertained to rifles, shotguns and pistols, and provided that: 1) the bringing into the state of any firearms must be reported within 8 hours to the police who will determine the ultimate disposition of the weapon; 2) a permit to purchase any firearm is required, and no person under 21 years of age may be issued such a permit; 3) all firearms owned, possessed or acquired must be registered with the police; 4) sale of any firearm by a citizen requires the filing of a joint application for transfer by both the seller and purchaser; 5) a license is necessary to carry any firearm, either openly or concealed; 6) a license may be

The author is a former resident of the state of Pennsylvania, a graduate of the wildlife research unit, VPI, now residing in White Coral Sands, Florida. He is a life member of the Wildlife Society, a life member of the National Rifle Association of America, a member of the Pennsylvania Rifle and Pistol Association.

revoked by the issuing official at any time upon written notice; 7) a record of all permits and registrations will be maintained by the police.

It is easy to see what effect this bill would have had on the honest gun owner had it been put into law. And what is worse, it would have been a very big "foot in the door" for even more restrictive firearms legislation. But through efforts of The National Rifle Association of America¹ and other shooters' organizations, thousands of Pennsylvanians were alerted to the danger. By telephone, telegram and letter, protests poured into the state capitol. As a result, Senate Bill 412 was killed in committee by a vote of 17-0.

However, in the year 1959 alone there were over 350 gun bills introduced in state legislatures and many more appeared on the local level. Some of these were not as restrictive as Bill 412, while others were even more so. The fact that none of the more restrictive measures managed to pass is a tribute to the fight put up by informed sportsmen. There promises to be comparable activity in the future.

Who proposes restrictive firearms legislation? Sometimes it is law enforcement officials who believe that their work can be made easier by curtailing the use of guns by the public. This has not been the case in other countries where it has been tried, but some in America continue to believe it in spite of the facts. In other instances it is well-intentioned but poorly-informed civic groups. Sometimes it is the "Do Gooder"; in some cases it is subversive elements.

In one of the large Pennsylvania cities a great amount of editorial space was purchased in a local newspaper to support Senate Bill 412. A radio news commentator was the individual responsible, and he used his broadcast facilities to enlist support for the measure. When citizen gun owners looked into his background, they found that he had been identified with communist-front organizations for at least the past 15 years. This should not surprise us, as it takes but little thought to realize who would benefit the most if our country were turned into a police state.

What can the average person do in the everlasting struggle to preserve our "right to keep and bear arms"? First of all, he should be alert at all times; always on the lookout for indications of coming legislation that would affect firearms. Newspapers, magazines, TV and radio are sources of such information. Pertinent material should be forwarded immediately to the National Rifle Association in order that it be given wide-

spread publicity among shooter-sportsmen. Informing members of forthcoming gun legislation is one of the functions of NRA.

When anti-gun legislation does arrive on the scene, every sportsman should swing into action immediately. Get all the information on the bill that is available. Give the information to other shooters, sportsmen's clubs, veterans' organizations, and other civic groups interested in sound legislation. Study the proposed legislation in the light of existing law and the history of firearms control. Then use the telephone, telegram, letter, and personal contact. Let the originators of the bill know that you don't approve and tell them why. Contact your legislative representatives and explain your position. Never underestimate what you as a single individual can accomplish. Your opinion might turn the tide. Most important of all, don't just sit back and ignore the issue, hoping that some other shooter will do your job for you.

The NRA lists five criteria that can be used in evaluating any legislation that pertains to firearms. These are:

- 1) Is it an enforceable law?
- 2) For what purpose is the law intended, and will it actually achieve that purpose?
- 3) Could the law be used by an unscrupulous person or party to extend or perpetuate its own power?
- 4) Is the law really necessary or does it merely contribute to a network of technical restrictions which can trip you or some other conscientious sportsman into being an unintentional violator?
- 5) Is the law an attempt to accomplish by prohibition what can be accomplished only by education and training?

Additional information on the subject of firearms legislation is available upon request from The National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.

In the meantime, don't stand still. The best defense is a good offense. Support the organizations interested in preserving our "right to keep and bear arms." Take part in their programs. Do everything you can in the way of educating the public to the fact that a gun is made of metal and wood, has no mind, and does nothing on its own. Help young shooters learn good safety habits. Assist law enforcement officers in apprehending those who commit acts of vandalism with firearms. Encourage sportsmanship among fellow hunters.

Remember, the future of hunting depends on . . . the gun . . . and you! If we believe that our sons and grandsons should be able to enjoy our cherished sport in the years to come, we must stop the anti-gun cranks now. We must be ever alert and do our job. We must take action and fight anti-gun legislation! ●

¹ The National Rifle Association of America (NRA) is a non-profit organization supported by the membership fees of public-spirited citizens. Its purposes are to educate and train citizens of good repute in the safe and efficient handling of firearms; to foster a knowledge of small arms and the ability to use them among members of law enforcement agencies and the armed services, and all other citizens who would be subject to service in the event of war; to promote social welfare and public safety, law and order, and the national defense. Membership in NRA is available to any reputable citizen of the United States, and at the present time exceeds 320,000 individuals.

WHAT'S A WILDLIFE OFFICER

By **ROBERT A. DAHNE**

Chief, Information—Education Division

A FLORIDA WILDLIFE OFFICER IS THE enforcement officer, or conservation agent, of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. In other states, he would be known as the "Game Warden," "Conservation Agent," or "Wildlife Protector."

What Does He Do?

Basically, the Wildlife Officer has the duty of enforcing the game and fresh-water fish laws, rules and regulations. These are found in the Wildlife Code Book of the State of Florida. However, the Wildlife Officer is also a conservation agent, and a public servant, and he has many varied duties to perform.

How Does He Enforce Laws?

He patrols the woods and waters in all 67 counties of the state. He does this on foot, by boat, in automobiles, in airplanes, by airboats, by swamp buggies, and many other types of wilderness equipment. He is always on the outlook for violations of the law. He investigates complaints. He collects data bearing on possible prosecutions for violations of the law. He checks on all reported violations. He makes arrests. He appears in court as a witness for the state when such arrests come to trial. He seizes illegal devices, such as nets, seines, set-guns, and may confiscate fish and game found in the possession of the violators. He inspects premises for possible violations and seizes contraband. He may, in some counties, take cash-appearance bonds, or issue citations. He may serve warrants and subpoenas to violators and witnesses.

The Florida Wildlife Officer enforces the game and fresh water fish laws, rules and regulations as set, and published in the State of Florida Wildlife Code Book. Appearance in court is one of his many jobs.



When Does He Work?

The Florida Wildlife Officer is considered to be on duty twenty-four hours per day. He works as many nights as he does days, depending upon the pattern of violations and complaints in his particular area. He is always on call for emergency duty. Consequently, he is not so fortunate as to work by any schedule of regular hours. In fact, the good enforcement officer never follows the same schedule or appears in the same places at the same time. He continually varies his patrols and activities so that his routine is "lack of routine." He does this to confound the hardened and confirmed law violators.

Photos by Jake Johnson

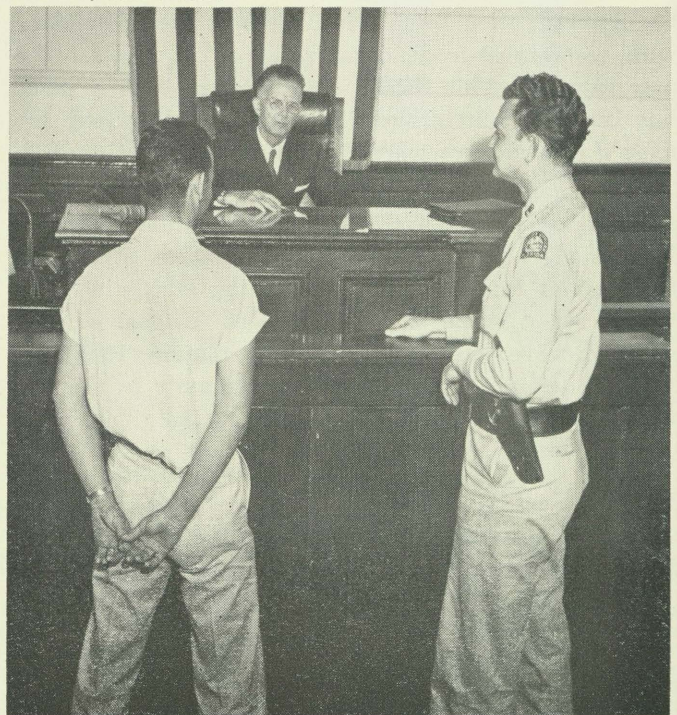




Photo by Jim Floyd

The Wildlife Officer patrols the woods and waters of all 67 counties in Florida. Patrols are made by automobiles, airplanes, boats, swamp buggies, airboats, on foot, and other means available. The checking of fishing licenses is a routine job.

What Other Work Does He Do?

In addition to his law-enforcement duties, the Wildlife Officer assists in both game and fish management work. He may collect samples of deer blood, or assist in waterfowl inventories and dove "coo-counts." He may make public appearances, or take part in live radio and television shows. He maintains his operational equipment, and makes written reports to his supervisors. He captures alligators in the cities and releases them in the wilderness. He may take part in fair exhibits, or assist in the chemical renovation of a lake. He also engages in public service, since he tries to be a good public servant.

What Public Service?

The Wildlife Officer is often called upon for aid in search and rescue missions. He may search for drowned bodies, or lost persons, or downed civilian aircraft. He may cooperate with other authorities in searching and bringing escaped convicts to justice. He assists in public emergencies, such as following a hurricane, storm or flood. He is part of the Civil Defense network, and takes part in drills and practices, and puts his knowledge to good use whenever possible.

Is The Work Dangerous?

Yes. The Wildlife Officer knows that almost every hunter and fisherman he meets in the field is armed with some sort of a potentially deadly weapon—a shotgun, rifle, revolver or knife. Therefore, the officer must be ever cautious and often courageous. Florida Wildlife Officers, acting in the line of duty, have been assaulted, cursed, shot, cut, and on one occasion, murdered. Through it all, the Wildlife Officer may use no greater show of force than is necessary to carry out his duties. He is expected to be as courteous and

considerate as is consistent with his duty to firmly enforce the law. He uses a weapon only in self-defense.

Is It Difficult?

Enforcement of the fish and game laws often requires hard physical exertion on the part of the Wildlife Officer. The Officer works in wilderness areas—swamp, marsh, woodland and on water areas—often under changing and severe weather conditions. To do this work, he must be a specialist in wilderness survival and self-defense. He must be calm, competent and resourceful. He must be emotionally and mentally stable. The work is exacting and, at times, exceedingly difficult.

Does He Lose His Temper?

The Wildlife Officer should never lose his temper, or display emotions of anger. This is because he is sworn to uphold the law, and the dignity of the State of Florida. Since he is an officer of the state, he cannot be personally insulted, since any insult to him is an insult to the uniform and the position, and not to the person. Attacks upon the Officer are, in effect, attacks upon the state, and are prohibited by law, as in the provisions concerning resisting arrest or impeding an officer in the performance of his sworn duties.

What Is His Conduct?

Because he is a commissioned officer of the State, the conduct of the Wildlife Officer must, at all times, be above reproach. He bears no grudges against the violator. He is fair, courteous and considerate in approaching all persons, and, when arresting persons, he follows the exact provisions of the law, without

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malice. He does not make the laws—he enforces the laws. The arrest of a person is not a personal achievement to him, but merely his sworn duty. He finds no particular job in apprehending and arresting people—he would rather that the people had not committed the violation in the first place. But, when the violation has been committed, he makes the arrest fairly, firmly and with dignity, and with no partiality to anyone. The Officer never makes a discourteous reply to any person under any conditions. The Officer, on the other hand, never shows sympathy to the apprehended violator, for the violator interpretes such sympathy as a sign of weakness on the part of the arresting officer.

What Does He Win?

By being fair, courteous, impartial, direct and firm in his duties, the Wildlife Officer gains respect, friendship, cooperation and admiration from the sportsmen and the general public.

Is Force Used In Arrests?

The Wildlife Officer may use whatever force is reasonable and necessary to effect the arrest. Reasonable force is defined as that necessary to make the arrest, as would be determined by an ordinarily prudent and intelligent person in the situation of the arresting officer. Unreasonable force may never be used under any circumstances.

What Rules Does He Follow?

The Wildlife Officer follows the laws which govern the manner in which an officer enforces the law. He acts under the law to carry out the law. The Officer, is, actually, subject to far more regulations and laws than any hunter or fisherman.

How Many Wildlife Officers?

The average complement of Florida Wildlife Officers for the entire state is 165, or slightly more than two per county. Naturally, there are not two assigned, necessarily, to each and every county, since they are assigned on the basis of need—territory to patrol and rate of violations in the given area.

How Are They Hired?

Any male resident of Florida may apply for the position of Wildlife Officer. This is done by writing a postcard or a letter to the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida, and requesting an employment application blank.

What Qualifications Are Needed?

To be eligible for consideration as a possible candidate, the applicant must be between the ages of 21 and 35. He must be a resident of Florida for two years prior to application. He must have a high school diploma of graduation, or a recognized equivalency, except that a person with two years of active military service is eligible upon the completion of the Eleventh grade. He must hold a valid Florida driver's license. He must be a person of good character and of good standing in the community in which he resides. He must be willing to accept an appointment to any county in the state. He will not be assigned to duty in his home county, since it has been proven that the new officer performs better in a new area.

What Happens Next?

If the person meets the basic qualifications, as per the information submitted on the employment application, the applicant is then notified of the time the next examinations shall be held. Such examinations are competitive, under the Commission's Merit System. Examinations are usually held on a Saturday, for the convenience of the average working person, and may be held at Tallahassee and Ocala, as well as West Palm Beach, Lakeland and Lake City. The information on the original application is verified by investigation.

What Are The Exams?

First are the written examinations. These are generally two, with a total examination time of about 90 to 120 minutes. These are graded, and the examinee notified as to whether he is successful. If successful, the examinee will then be requested to appear before



Photo by Bill Hansen

In addition to regular enforcement duties, the Wildlife Officer assists in both game and fish management programs. In this photo an officer assists in a special turkey trapping, banding, and releasing project.



Photo by Jim Reed

To the average sportsman and citizen the Wildlife Officer IS the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. He is constantly in contact with the public, often giving specialized lectures and instruction.

an oral interview board. If he successfully completes both written and oral examinations, the applicant is then placed on the eligibility list to await future openings for new Wildlife Officers. New Wildlife Officers are under probationary employment for the first year, and must attend a special training school operated by the Commission.

How Many Are Hired?

Of all those who make the first application, an average of ten percent are finally employed. The remaining nine out of ten either lose interest or fail to complete the required examinations. Those who fail the written examinations may re-take the test at a later date, without prejudice of any type.

How Much Money?

The basic pay for new probationary Wildlife Officers is presently \$285.00 per month. After completing the first year of probation, the Officer achieves permanent status, and a pay increase to \$300.00 per month. He then receives an automatic increase of \$2.00 per year, until he reaches a maximum of \$340.00 per month. He receives a uniform allotment, his insignia, and a belt and holster, but he must furnish his own sidearm—revolver.

What's The Future?

The Wildlife Officer may, after a certain term of satisfactory service, take competitive examinations for in-service promotion as vacancies occur. He may win a promotion to Wildlife Officer First Class, with a pay increase of \$15.00 per month, or to Area Supervisor, with a pay range of \$345.00 to \$405.00. He may, eventually, be promoted to a high administrative position, such as Regional Manager, or even Director of the Commission.

Can He Be Fired?

Yes. He may be suspended or dismissed from the service at any time that he is adjudged guilty of conduct unbecoming to the uniform. Any such charge against him must be of such nature to stand up before the Commission's Merit System hearings. The Merit System protects the Officer against false charges, or dismissal without cause. At the same time, the Merit System provides certain exact methods of dismissing the Officer who fails to make the grade as a good employee.

What About Health?

The Wildlife Officer must be in good health, and must possess the physical attributes and stamina, and the mental qualities, necessary to performance of his duties. He must be of a self-sufficient nature, so that he is competent to work alone in the wilderness areas without immediate supervision or assistance. He must be intelligent enough to operate specialized mechanical equipment and vehicles. He must, in other words, be a rugged all-around man.

How Big Is The Job?

Florida's 165 Wildlife Officers have the tremendous task of applying and enforcing the conservation principles and game and fish laws to approximately 39,000,000 acres of land and water within the confines of the State. This is 58,560 square miles to patrol. They patrol the second largest woodland area in the United States, and thousands of fresh-water lakes, streams, rivers and canals. They are required to enforce and uphold the law fairly, equally and impartially throughout the entire State of Florida. There is no other single law-enforcement agency in Florida faced with so large and complicated a task.

Is It Important?

Vigorous enforcement of the game and fish laws will always be an extremely important phase of our good wildlife conservation program. The laws are made to protect and conserve our valuable wildlife and fish resources. Unfortunately, whenever you have laws, you have some few persons who will violate the laws, either through ignorance or a willful desire to violate. Such persons must be taught not to violate. To the average sportsman and citizen, the Florida Wildlife Officer IS the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. The Wildlife Officer is the Commission's immediate and most important contact with the general citizens. There is no person in the Commission of more importance than the Wildlife Officer in the performance of his duties in the field. Upon the shoulders of the Wildlife Officer rests the ultimate success or failure of Florida's wildlife conservation program. ●



The results of many wild rumors, and "confidential" tips.

He Ariseth Early and Disturbeth
the Whole Household.

He Maketh Mighty Preparations,
And Fareth Forth Full of Hope.

He Returneth Home Late,
Smelling of Strong Drink,

And — The Truth Is Not In Him!

(Thanks to Anonymous Author)

BEHOLD, THE FISHERMAN

WHY IS IT THAT ALL fishermen invariably fill their tackle boxes with lures of every conceivable color, size, and shape; top water plugs, underwater plugs, plugs with spinners, plugs with dual sets of hooks, ones with triple sets of hooks. Frog back plugs, silver flash design, scale-finish plugs, red, yellow and even multicolor. Darters, divers, poppers, shallow running lures, deep running plugs, weedless spoons, revolving silver and gold spoons. Plugs for casting; jigs, bucktails, streamers and small plugs for spinning. Bugs, flies, spoons and spinners for the fly rod; etcetra, etcetra, etcetra—and rarely, if ever, use more than a half dozen old faithfuls???

It could be perhaps that these bulging tackle boxes are the result of those unbelievable but wonderful sounding rumors that originate in good faith. However, after being passed along from one fisherman to another, they sometimes get distorted and slightly exaggerated. The result is a mad run on this plug or that one, a surefire can't-miss lure.

I'll wager my last no-alibi number 4, my plastic worm, or *even* my Orlando Shiner that if you'll admit it, most of the lures in *your* collection were bought because some well-meaning friend confided in you that he heard of a plug the bass at marker 17, 24, or the Dexter grass flats couldn't resist. And you couldn't get to the tackle shop fast enough to get one! Right? Right!

By **CARL LEDBETTER**

Just for fun, and it probably needs cleaning out anyway, remove all the lures from your tackle box as I did. One by one, ask yourself, "Who talked me into buying this one? Where was it that this was the *only* plug they'd take?" Do you actually have many lures that you picked out without any advice or suggestions from your best friends? I seriously doubt it because all fishermen are alike when it comes to acquiring superfluous tackle.

Fishermen are an incredibly eccentric lot. They have a horror of getting caught at any spot on a river, lake or seacoast without the *right* lure. Consequently, the plug, fly and bug business is always booming!

Actually, so little is known about the feeding habits of our game fish that every fisherman is forever experimenting with color combinations for bright or dull days (even though ichthyologists have proven without a doubt that fish are as color blind as were most of the World War II draftees). We tirelessly work a top and then an underwater lure, seeking that elusive answer.

Next, it's spoons, spinners, flies or bugs; feathered lures or pork rind on a weedless. And to make the

frustrating situation even more confusing, the experts state that fish not only feed at different times on different days, they also will strike altogether different lures at different times on the *same* day!

We finally have emptied our tackle box. The contents include some, but not all, of the *musts* that most fishermen always carry with them—just in case. These items include pliers and wrenches, screw drivers, shear pins, and cotter keys. A knife, a can opener, a beer opener, a compass; extra line, a casting reel, a spinning reel, and a fly reel. Stringers, bobbers, extra sets of hooks, hooks for live bait fishing, pork rind, a small can of gear oil, a tube of gear grease and, of course, a fishing license—and my tackle box is certainly not king-size. You can well imagine the amount of gear that some of those four and six shelf jobs will hold!

Obviously not carried in the box, but always present are the following: gasoline can, dip net, raincoat, lunch box (including coffee thermos), ice box, and life preservers. One of the most difficult phases of fishing (and any fisherman will readily agree) is loading the gear into the car, unloading it and stowing it in the boat. Next, its reloading in your auto after you finish fishing.

The proverbial straw is taking all the equipment (and it's gotten especially heavy this late in the day) out of the car and storing it in your garage, cellar or wherever your wife forces you to keep the smelly stuff!

While we are on the subject of oddities of the clan of old I. Walton, you'll agree that 99% of them will

gladly tell you the lure they used to catch that big string, including one just over ten pounds. However, have you ever met a real fisherman who would divulge the *exact* spot where he had this phenomenal luck? Definitely not!

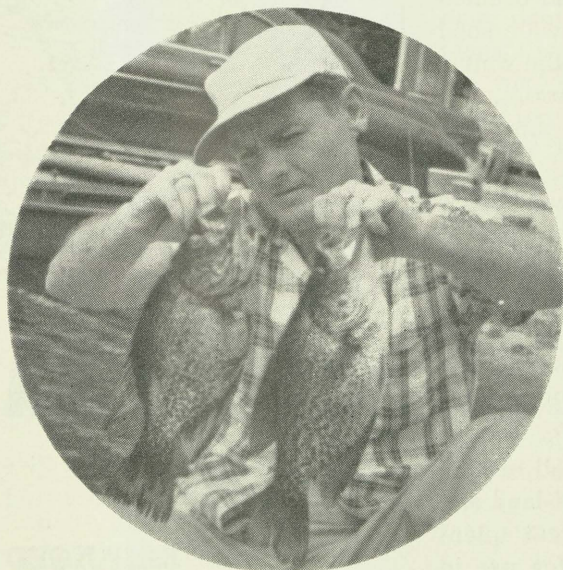
The stock answer, and it can be as exasperating as the hackneyed, 'No comment,' is "A small lake in Lake County, or "On the river," or some equally indefinite answer.

As further proof that fishermen are not only different from ordinary men, and that each one is also different from the others, take for example, W. S., an excellent fisherman. He likes all types of fresh and salt water fishing. He is also what might be termed a fanatic when it comes to *schooling* bass. He'll drop everything, anywhere, and go at the slightest suggestion that bass are hitting at marker 17, 24 or anywhere else within range of his 18 H.P. motor.

He is the type of school fisherman who sits patiently and doesn't make any false casts. When bass start blasting menhaden out of the water, W. S. calmly arises in his boat and unhurriedly, but very accurately, fires a small scale-finish plug in the bull's eye of the churned-up water. He undoubtedly catches far more fish than the average fisherman.

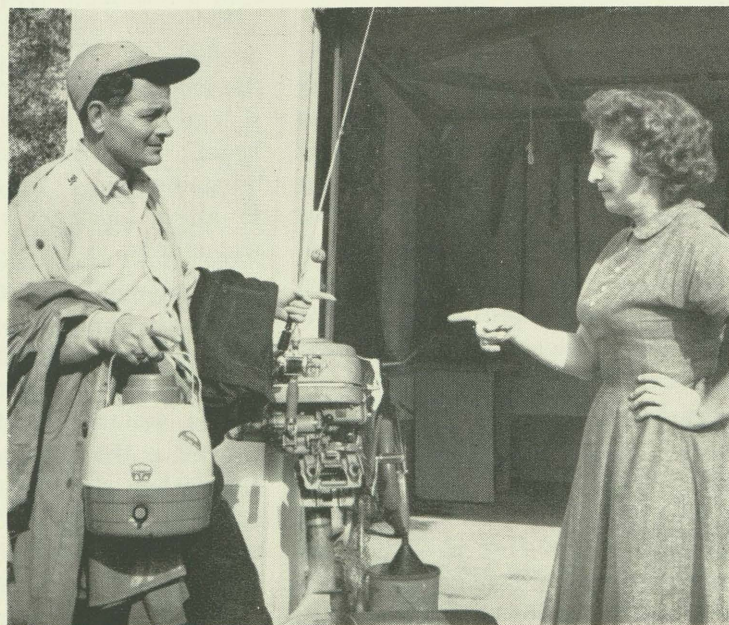
Ted is just the exact opposite. He doesn't care an iota about sitting in an anchored boat waiting for bass to put on their show. He is a fly rod purist, the pipe-smoking, unexcitable type, and conscientiously believes that using the long rod is the *only* sporting way to fish. He'll spend the entire day tirelessly working a shoreline with tiny popping bugs streamers and spoons. He delights in using both wet and dry flies.

Ken, on the other hand, is strictly a live bait
(Continued on Page 41)



Our fisherman checks total day's catch
of two — but he'll be back.

There might not be any fish to show,
but the tales about those that got away
will go on for hours.



IT WOULD BE UNUSUAL if a fine home were used just for one purpose, such as the preparation of meals, and its sleeping, bathing or other living facilities were ignored. It would be even more odd to refuse to use all of the facilities of such a home as the family grew with the addition of children. Full use is **MULTIPLE USE**.

Lands and waters of the United States, in a somewhat similar manner, comprise the collective house for the nation's citizens. These are the available resources upon which people, more and more of them every year, must depend for food, fibre, fuel and recreation—the basic physical requirements of life. And, as a home must be cleaned, painted and otherwise kept in good repair, resources must be properly managed and wisely used in many ways. This is **MULTIPLE-USE CONSERVATION**.

Resources generally are grouped into two classes: renewable and non-renewable. Renewable resources include all living things, both plant and animal, capable of regeneration to provide the food, fibre, fuel and enjoyment of man. Non-renewable resources are the rocks and mineral deposits that provide many of the fuels and metals which, when used, to all practical purposes are lost to man forever. **CONSERVATION, OR WISE USE**, is essential for both classes of resources.

Soil and water form the basis, the natural resources, for the well-being of every civilization which has existed on the face of the earth. Productive soil, properly nurtured with water and blessed with sunlight, sustains life. There is a saying that all flesh is grass—epitomizing the fact that great quantities of meat for the table of Americans, as well as wildlife, can be raised on the soil.

There is an intricate relationship between such renewable natural resources as water, productive topsoil, forests, grasses, wildlife and man himself. In harmony, all of these resources can be managed for great and lasting benefits expressed in na-

ture's surpluses or bounties. Abused, the evils of soil erosion, floods and low rates of production visit the land to contribute to man's loss in wood, food and wildlife. Renewable natural resources, then, must be managed for **OPTIMUM MULTIPLE USE** or the best use for which particular areas are suited. To assure such a program, a vital necessity as an expanding human population makes added demands upon resources, will require **BALANCED CONSERVATION PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**.

Certain portions of man's domain must be preserved in its natural state. The process of evolution must be allowed to take place without interference. **WILDERNESS AREAS** will provide solitude and enhance man's appreciation of life. They may also hold the key to an understanding of the relationship between man and his environment.

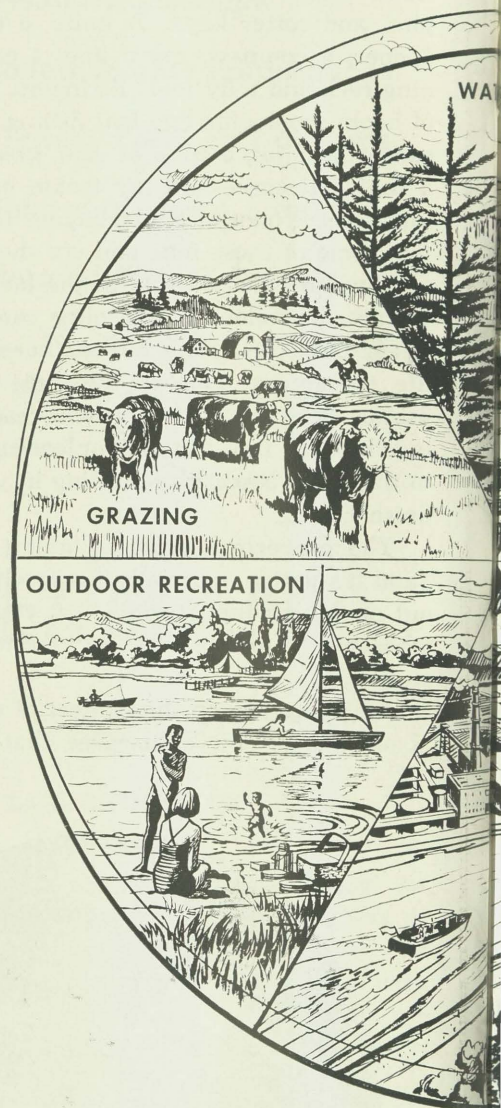
The Watershed and People

A watershed is described as a specific area of land which produces water, wildlife, timber, grazing and outdoor recreation, including appreciation for nature. A watershed, big or small, is the area of land drained by a single stream. The watershed of a large stream includes the watersheds of its many tributaries. All parts of the nation are in some watershed.

Balanced conservation planning is needed for all uses of the land if the products are to be produced consistently and continually for the benefit of man. This practice of "sustained-yield" may be applicable to all or parts of one or several watersheds.

A watershed embraces all or several of the multiple uses of land and water. It can produce great quantities of water designed for use in homes, industries and agriculture, as well as the esthetic values which come when viewing a beautiful lake or a crystal-clear fishing stream. A maximum of quality water cannot be produced, however, unless there is proper management of the land.

MULTI



OF OUR NATU

THROUGH—

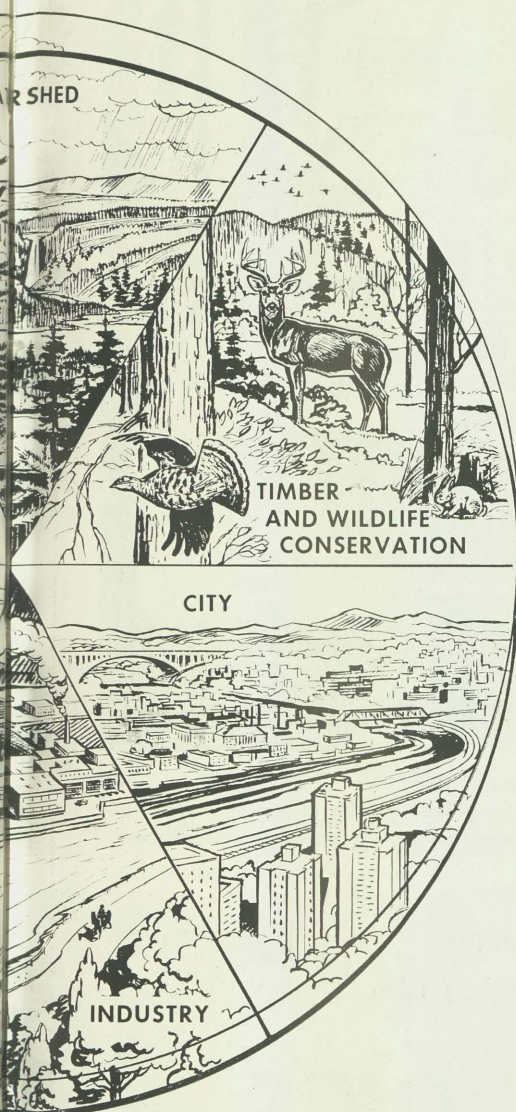
BALANCED CONSERVATION

FOR THE

NATIONAL WILDLIFE

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

LE USE



AL RESOURCES

VATION PLANNING

FUTURE

LIFE FEDERATION

The watershed, in a natural succession of plants, would be protected by trees and grasses except in the higher elevations where climatic limitations exist. These plants, when properly managed, can provide man with a continuing supply of beneficial products.

National Parks and Wilderness areas are a part of the balanced conservation plan. These inviolate, or near inviolate, segments of a watershed contribute to the ascetic and scientific knowledge of man. Maintaining these areas in their natural state assures the retention of water, soil, forests, grasses and wildlife that otherwise might be lost forever.

Multiple Use of Timber Resources

Timber resources must be harvested in a manner which will provide for a continuing supply of fibre to meet the needs of civilization, yet without depleting the soil of its nutrients. Removal of the protective covering of the earth, in this case trees, should be accomplished in a manner to stabilize the soil on steep slopes. The employment of techniques of selective cutting can reduce damage. In fact, in many regions, the OPTIMUM USES of trees are for their soil-holding capabilities. Fire, disease or overcutting can open slopes to disastrous erosion to cause floods for communities in low-lands of the watershed.

Timber provides many products of value to man. Important sources of the nation's timber are forests owned and managed by units of federal and state governments. Originally set aside primarily to provide watershed protection and a continuing yield of timber products, national forests now are managed under MULTIPLE-USE policies recognized by the U. S. Congress. On National forests, as well as on forest lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, timber is now being harvested on a sustained-yield basis, thereby providing essential timber products for man's present and future use.

Wildlife Conservation

Forests also provide important habitat for fish and wildlife. Trout so highly prized by fishermen require clear and cold water such as that which flows from the depths of forests. Deer and elk, bear, squirrels, grouse, turkeys and a host of other species of wildlife make their homes in or near forests. Cleared tracts within sustained-yield forest areas often support more wildlife than an unbroken canopy of trees because small food-and-cover vegetation is permitted to grow.

Even an unharvested timber and ungrazed area has multiple uses. Many of the nation's finest parks, wildernesses and recreational areas are located within forests which **BALANCED MULTIPLE - USE PLANNING** indicates should be left in their natural state.

The Place of Grazing in Multiple-Use Management

Grazing of domestic livestock and wild big game animals is another important use of watersheds, particularly on areas where the protective soil covering is grass. Again, publicly-owned properties make important contributions. National forests and lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management now annually provide for the grazing of many thousands of head of livestock primarily cattle and sheep.

Just as in the management of timber, where over-cutting is a danger, western range or grasslands must not be overgrazed. Again **WISE USE** is important. Overgrazing by either domestic livestock or wild animals, or both, can result in excessive loss of soil by rain or wind erosion and in floods affecting the entire watershed. If these evils are to be prevented, wise management must permit only the harvest of surplus forage, leaving sufficient grass, shrubs and trees to bind the soil, hold water and maintain continuing production. In many areas, where grazing is the **OPTIMUM USE**, the production of animals can be improved and ex-

(Continued on Page 32)

IN THEIR EFFORTS TO KEEP people well and happy, doctors are generally in agreement that every person should have an interesting, absorbing hobby, whether it's hunting, fishing or collecting things like stamps, coins, guns and historic period pieces.

Most of us collect *something*! However, only a relative few can let their hobbies become more than normally expensive. One such person is Colonel Rolfe E. Holbrook, an investment counselor of Coral Gables, Florida, who has been collecting guns and period pieces since he was a boy and who can now satisfy long-nurtured dreams.

Likewise, Colonel Holbrook today is regarded as one of the country's top authorities on old guns and historical items. Also a philanthropist, he has located and donated many valuable originals to public education.

The observance this year of the Civil War Centennial will undoubtedly create unprecedented interest in items of that period. Already, national magazines and newspapers are giving featured space surprisingly, in many facets of the history making conflict. Not too surprisingly, in many cases the texts have either been authored by Colonel Holbrook on direct assignment, or factually checked by him prior to publication.

When his collection grew to the point where space and attractive arrangement became problems, Colonel Holbrook added a special room to his home to house his specimens. It is 20x40 feet, of heavy steel reinforced concrete wall, roof and floor construction, without windows and air-conditioned. Built like a lavish air raid shelter, it is one of the most burglar-proof, fire-proof show rooms in existence. Most valuable of displayed items are in full view and well lighted, but glass-protected from careless handling by visitors. To its owner, the exhibit room is well worth its \$26,000 basic cost.

When he receives a specimen from a dealer or direct source, Colonel Holbrook carefully cleans and reconditions the article and compiles



Colonel Holbrook's prize collection is his "Johnny Reb" exhibit of pistols, swords and items used solely by Confederate forces.

If — as the doctors
say — an absorbing hobby helps
keep a person healthy, this collector
is headed for a long and interesting life

HOLBROOK'S HOBBY

By EDMUND McLAURIN

notes on its features and history. If necessary, he calls on other collectors and authoritative sources for information and/or needed parts. Finally, he either appropriately frames or places the restored item against authentic background reproductions.

For quick reference as to true

identity and history, each item in Holbrook's extensive collection has a code number and a master information file corresponding to the number. It is, therefore, possible for a visitor to quickly review pertinent information pertaining to any particular collection piece in which he may evince especial interest.

During the years of the War Between the States, the Confederacy was formed to obtain firearms anywhere it could, to supplement the limited manufactures of Griswold, Columbus Firearms Company and Dance Brothers, Southern gunmakers. Most of the Southern small-arms weapons were of .36 caliber, although a few were of .44 caliber with the advantage of interchangeable rifle and pistol ammunition.

Probably the most versatile and effective handgun the Confederate forces had was the LeMat combination nine shot pistol and single barrel shotgun. Made in France for the Confederacy, it could have tipped the scales in favor of the South had deliveries ever matched field needs.

The combination .36 caliber pistol and 16 gauge shotgun was also unusual in respect that the shotgun portion could be loaded and fired in an emergency even though the gun was in an almost complete stage of disassembly.

Another combination Confederate fighting weapon was a 6-shot pistol embodying an attached sword-like blade. It also was made in France, under Confederate contract.

Among his collection of Confederate weapons, Colonel Holbrook has one of the original guns General Beauregard carried—a .36 caliber Navy Colt.

Numerous swords of the War Between the States period are among the displayed historical items. Included are some beautifully made, highly ornate weapons carried by high-ranking officers. However, the Coral Gables collector does not claim to have General Lee's sword; he says it reposes in the Richmond Confederate Museum and is relatively priceless.

Generally, swords used by the Northern forces were fairly light and narrow of blade, obviously originally created for parade and dress rather than fighting. Southern weapons, on the other hand, were invariably heavier, wider and thicker of blade.

As mass-attack fighting weapons, swords saw their last serious wide scale use in the War Between the States.

Colonel Holbrook's prize collection is a Simon-pure display of pistols and other items used solely by the Confederacy; no Yankee weap-

ons are to be found in this particular exhibit! Besides powder weapons, the collection includes considerable original army unit insignia, bayonets, Confederate Army Bibles and wearing apparel.

So lifelike in appearance that they sometimes seem like real people standing by are mannequins wearing complete and authentic period uniforms. Most notable are those of a Captain in the North Carolina militia and an enlisted man's uniform of the Maryland National Guard. Both are genuine Civil War figures once used to display tailoring—not wax or crude papier-mache faces and bodies. Similarly, the Captain's boots are solid steel, his hands and face sculptured wood and plaster. The dress uniform is especially rare, being one of about four to be found outside of museums.

Faded, but still colorful battle flags, ranging in size from an 18 inch unit pennant to a 20 ft. garrison flag, adorn the walls of the exhibit room and of the hallway leading to it. Included is the flag of the Louisiana Division of the Army of Tennessee, one of the major components of the Confederate Army, and the original flag that was flying at Mobile when Southern forces surrendered.

A prized period piece is a large painting of General Robert E. Lee, used as a backdrop in the Birmingham, Alabama, auditorium where the Confederate veterans held reunion in 1870. It was the last encampment attended by Lee; he stopped briefly at Birmingham on his way to Florida for two weeks, shortly before his death the same year.

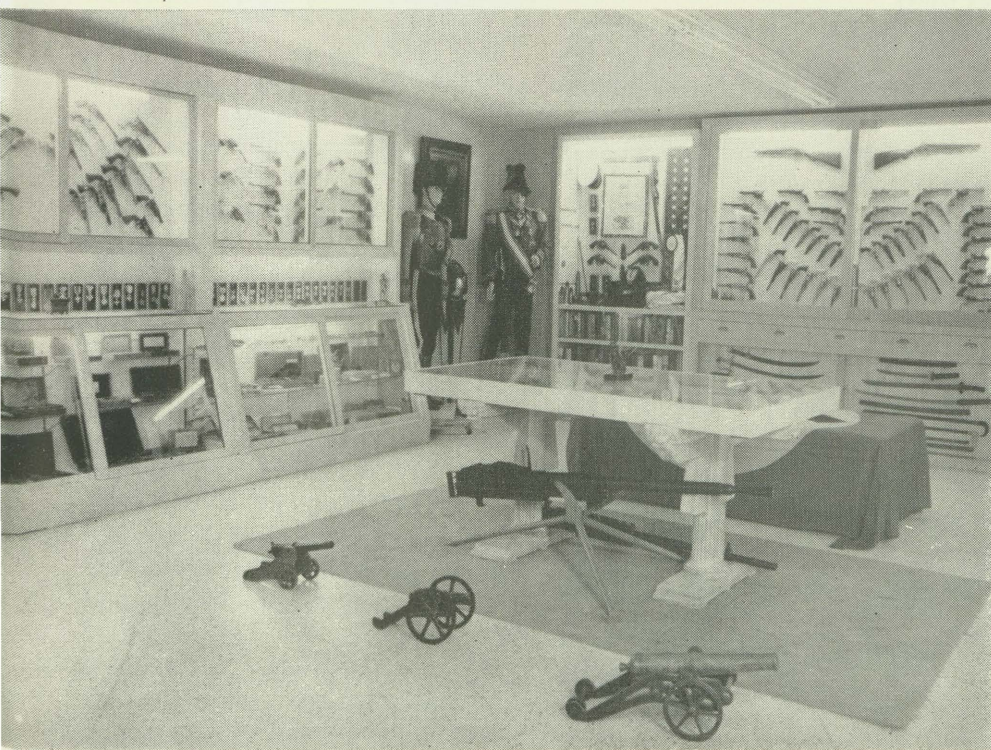
Interesting and remarkably well preserved, with original colors still visible, is a homemade Confederate flag fashioned of cornflower blossoms glued to a piece of cardboard.

The Coral Gables collector has an almost complete group of original Civil War period books, with some of the volumes written in French, by French personages living in New Orleans. All are old—some so aged that the protective tissue flysheets placed in front of illustrations have them-

(Continued on Next Page)

When the collection grew to the point where space and arrangements became problems, a specially constructed showroom was added to the home.

Photos by Edmund McLaurin



(Continued from Preceding Page)
selves become image-etched!

Interesting, but somewhat depressing, are original letters of James C. Rogers, a private in the Union Army, written to his wife. Despite being underage, Rogers had been drafted into service. Throughout his long correspondence with his wife, he sought to find and furnish his birth certificate as proof of the injustice and to obtain his rightful discharge. His letters also told of hard fought battles and of Union soldier's philosophy concerning the needless conflict. Unfortunately, Rogers never obtained his discharge, his death occurring just before the end of the war.

War Between the States items include many original photographs made by Mathew Brady, who made surprisingly good photos with what we would now consider very crude equipment. Brady's work embraced daguerreotype photos, photos etched on layers of glass pressed together and photos printed from wet plates—three different processes. His best work was done with wet plate process. Colonel Holbrook's collection of Brady originals includes photos of various generals and their staffs as

well as actual battle scenes. Many of the pictures bear the original signatures of famous War Between the States' personalities.

While his children delight in watching "Tales of Wells Fargo" on TV, Colonel Holbrook's interest takes more tangible form. His special Wells Fargo display features sawed-off shotguns of the type carried by Wells Fargo stage and bank depot guards, when riding "shotgun" or protecting valuable shipments locally.

Other unusual pieces include a Colt Frontier model Peacemaker revolver ordered especially by Pancho Villa for one of his lieutenants, with identifying engraving; a pistol carried into the battle of The Little Big Horn by one of Custer's men—authenticated by checking a list of known serial numbers of guns carried in that fateful conflict; cased French duelling pistols with all bullet-making and loading components—a type of fighting weapon often used to satisfy matters of honor under majestic oaks of early morning, and a great array of odd guns. One can find anything from one barrel models delivering one shot to seven barrel models shooting as many as

20 shots!

Hundreds of boxes of rifle and pistol cartridges of early manufacture are to be seen on the shelves of the exhibit room, with some of them rarer than some of the guns in which they were used. They range from .177 caliber to as high as .65 caliber, and bear such manufacture identification as Robin Hood Arms Company, Sage Ammunition Works, Spencer Cartridge Company and Burnside Cartridge Company, all famous brand names of their day. In addition to boxed ammunition, there are numerous wall-type boards featuring ammunition components in their successive manufacturing stages, as well as display boards holding rifle and pistol cartridges of every size and type manufactured.

Cans and canisters of early powders abound, bearing yellowed labels with the imprint of duPont, Kentucky Hazard and Robin Hood, three pioneer powder manufacturers. These early powders were unstable in performance; purchasers usually had to fire a few test loads from each new lot.

Bullet mold representations include just about every type made by early gunsmiths and enterprising individuals. These were usually handmade from brass and iron. Later, big companies manufactured and included them with cased sets of guns.

Another unique feature of Colonel Holbrook's gun collection is that it includes many one-of-a-kind specimens, plus many ornate presentation pieces, varying from derringers of six ounces to the six to seven pound dragoons. Every phase of Colt revolver manufacture is represented—totaling more than 600 early and late model Colts. Even so, Colonel Holbrook says he is still seeking duplicates of certain models.

The serious gun student will find some of the engraved guns worthy of special study; many of the old masters hand-executed ornate, fine detail designs on gun barrels and receivers, and often hid whimsical creations, expression of personal interests and/or identifying symbols among the fine detail. A man named

Each new specimen is carefully cleaned and reconditioned, and a file prepared on its features and history.



Wolff was one of the best gun engravers, and marked his work by including a small wolf head among the many scrolls he used as ornamentation.

Asked about the most valuable guns he has ever owned, Colonel Holbrook described a matched pair of Model 1861 Navy Colt revolvers, .36 caliber, with hammers, triggers and loading assemblies executed in gold. As collectors' items they were worth \$10,000. Colonel Holbrook kept them for five years, then passed them along to another collector better able to exhibit them educationally.

Sword and gun canes were popular with dandies of the 1840 period. To all appearances ordinary walking canes, they concealed rapier-like blades or single bullet loads of approximately .32 caliber. Colonel Holbrook has several specimens in his collection.

Most impressive is his collection of some 25 large and small cannon. Probably the most attractive piece is a 4 ft. long, solid bronze, English chateau cannon of the 1760 period, firing a 2" diameter round ball backed by about a pound of black powder and a touch-hole type fuse. Many were brought to America by early settlers, and were later used by both Whigs and Tories during the American Revolution. Well made, the weapons were practically indestructible, safely handling about as much black powder as could be packed into them.

Also interesting are the almost toy-like Civil War period deck cannon, used primarily to blast a ship's steering wheel into uselessness.

Colonel Holbrook's earliest period piece is a 12th Century, gut-wrapped, Chinese bronze pit cannon. To fire it, a hole was dug to the angle of desired fire and the loaded, fused weapon placed in it. After being fired, the weapon was dragged out of the hole, reloaded and replaced—usually in another hole prepared by an advance guard. This ancient weapon saw service right up until 1842, when taken in battle by English forces.



Photos by Edmund McLaurin

The large painting of Gen. Robert E. Lee was used as an auditorium backdrop when the Confederate veterans and Lee held last reunion, in Birmingham in 1870.

A large Spanish cannon reposing in his front yard probably has an interesting history, Colonel Holbrook tells visitors. It was recently uncovered by Miami's street department workers digging at the nineteenth foot level on Biscayne Bay Boulevard. Since most of Miami was developed from swamp and bay acreage, the cannon probably came from a ship sunk in the bay. When one considers what the land area now encompasses, some idea of the million to one odds of the cannon ever being recovered can be realized.

Colonel Holbrook also collects Napoleonic period pieces. One specimen is a crystal piece that once stood beside the bier of Napoleon at St. Helena. Another greatly prized piece is a photo miniature executed in fine brush detail on thin ivory. Originally, it was offered to Colonel Holbrook as a "Napoleon picture;" actually, it is an old painting so finely executed in brush detail that, to the eye, it has the appearance of a smooth, printed finish. Only when examined under a magnifying glass can the fine brush marks be detected.

Other Napoleonic period pieces include numerous small and large busts of brass, bronze, solid silver,

marble and other materials; swords, guns and period engravings. Largest exhibits are two mannequins—one wearing the uniform of Napoleon's Guard Elite, and the other the uniform of the Hussar Guard. Both of the officer uniforms have a full complement of appropriate medals and insignia.

Only recently has Colonel Holbrook undertaken to assemble medal awards of all countries of the world, but already he has amassed several thousand, divided into two major classifications—American and foreign. The American section is almost complete.

Many of the foreign nations' medal awards are highly ornate, solid gold and jewel studded. American medals, on the other hand, have generally never been as elaborate or of precious metals, but have been given for greater deeds of valor than most foreign decorations. However, certain state and regional awards have been solid gold. National medals have been mostly made of bronze.

Another marked difference between foreign and American medal awards has been the custom of many of the older countries of Europe to give the most ornate awards to high-

(Continued on Page 38)



Trolling the deeper areas of Lucas Pond usually results in a good catch of large bluegills.

Lucas Pond
Pate Pond
Rattlesnake Pond
Holmes Creek
PART 4

Choctawhatchee Watershed

LUCAS POND

The most striking feature of Lucas Pond is the lack of scars and signs left by drought. Through the years as other lakes fluctuated greatly, Lucas Pond remained steadfast. Evidently it receives part of its water from the subterranean river system underlying northwest Florida.

Local fishermen report that speckled perch fishing was once popular here, but lately catches have dropped drastically. This same condition has presented itself in other areas. It seems speckled perch have definite population cycles, with years of alternately high and low populations. This is just a natural characteristic and soon the cycle should change to produce bigger and better perch.

Trolling the deeper areas with small spinning lures usually results in a good catch of bass and pickerel. This same method is used to pick up the large, deep water bluegills.

Date of Survey: 1958.

Size: 482 acres.

Location: Washington County, Florida. Approximately 5½ miles south of Vernon, Florida.

Water Color: Highly stained.

Aquatic Vegetation: St. John's Wort, White Water Lily, Maiden Cane, Pickerel Weed, Bladder Wort.

Bottom Type: Sand, mud, and for the most part decaying vegetative material.

Fluctuation: Very slight during normal precipitation, but extreme during prolonged dry periods.

By

Keith Byrd, Project Leader

Phil Hester, Fishery Biologist

Mary Ward, Secretary

Lake & Stream Survey Team 1

Depth: Up to 24 feet in South end. Ten to twelve feet around shore and in grassy areas.

Accessibility and Availability: Approximately four miles of sand road, three miles of which is ungraded. If using a large boat, a tilt trailer would be necessary. Landing unimproved.

Fishing History: Bass and bluegills have remained constantly good. Speckled perch were once abundant but have slowly dropped off.

Best Fishing Areas: Around grass edges and in the Jack Hole leading off the northeast corner.

CATCHABLE FISH PRESENT Game Fish

Name	Relative Abundance
Largemouth Bass	Abundant
Chain Pickerel (Jackfish)	Common
Bluegill	Extremely Abundant
Warmouth	Extremely Abundant
Dollar Sunfish	Extremely Abundant

Non-Game Fish

Yellow Cat (Butter Cat)	Occasional
Eastern Chubsucker (Pond Sucker)	Common

PATE POND

Pate Pond is one of the most popular recreational areas in Washington County for on weekends and holidays families flock here to boat and fish. This well rounded activity is for the most part ideal, but when water skiing first started some strong feelings were aroused. It seemed the skiers and fishermen were constantly at each others throats over control of the lake. Finally a meeting was called to discuss the situation, as a result the trouble was settled and things are now operating smoothly. As boating in Florida becomes more and more popular numerous squabbles like this are constantly going to appear, we hope they too can be settled to satisfy all interests as in the case of Pate Pond.

When the weather turns fair and hot a few fishermen can be seen fishing around the cypress snags and trees for bluegill and bass, but the fishermen that really know Pate Pond choose this time to stay at home. When the clouds form and the skies darken the old timers don their raincoats and head for the lake, because an artificial worm or spinner trolled slow across the lake during rainy weather will usually put meat on the table. Some strings were checked on which the bluegills averaged 3/4 pound—that's nice bream in anybody's book.

Date of Survey: 1957.

Size: 333 acres.

Location: Washington County, Florida; approximately 9½ miles south, southeast of Caryville, Florida.

Water Color: Highly stained.

Aquatic Vegetation: Horned Pondweed, Spike Rush, Pickerel Weed, Maiden Cane, White Water Lily.

Bottom Type: Sand and mud in most areas. Around the cypress edges there is a large amount of vegetative matter.

Depth: This is a shallow cup-shaped lake with the edges sloping gradually to 12 feet and then leveling off.

Fluctuation: Generally the fluctuation is slight. However, during the long drought, it dropped a few feet.



Photo by Wallace Hughes

Pate Pond is a favorite recreation area for fisherman and water skiers.

Accessibility and Availability: There is approximately 1 mile of graded sand road which is kept in good condition. There is one fish camp and a public landing constructed by a local Kiwanis Club.

Fishing History: Fishing was excellent some years ago, but as the water went down so did the fishing. As the water returned over the last couple of years the fishing has improved.

Best Fishing Areas: Around the cypress snags and stumps for bass. Bluegills are caught out in the open water.

CATCHABLE FISH PRESENT Game Fish

Name	Relative Abundance
Largemouth Bass	Common
Chain Pickerel (Jackfish)	Occasional
Bluegill	Extremely Abundant
Warmouth	Abundant
Speckled Perch	Occasional
Shellcracker	Occasional
Dollar Sunfish	Occasional

Non-Game Fish

Eastern Chubsucker (Pond Sucker)	Common
Yellow Cat (Butter Cat)	Occasional
Brown Bullhead	Occasional
Bowfin	Common
Spotted Gar	Occasional

RATTLESNAKE POND

Mother Nature through her unique way has chosen a select few of the choice finny creatures to complement these waters; bass, bluegill, pickerel, warmouth, and the usual minnows make up the entire population. Only a small number of the closest managed lakes contain a population so pure.

(Continued on Next Page)

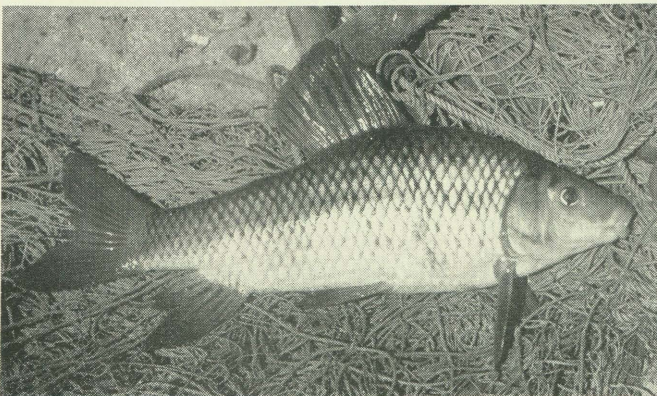
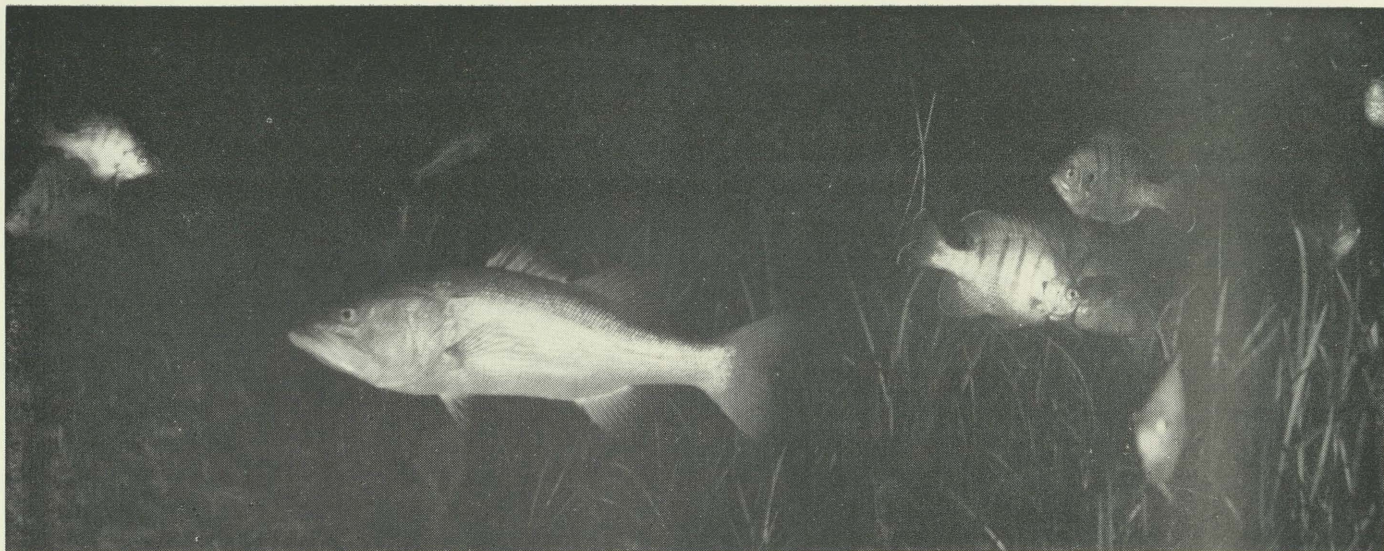


Photo by Wallace Hughes

The Eastern Chubsucker or "Pond Sucker" is common in Pate Pond.



(Continued from Preceding Page)

Due to its isolated location, very few local residents can readily find Rattlesnake Pond, as a result people rarely venture here to fish. With conditions as they are in this lake, the adventurous angler who takes it upon himself to test and explore this untapped resource will probably be well rewarded.

Date of Survey: 1958.

Size: 256 acres.

Location: Washington County, Florida, 12 miles south of Wausau, Florida.

Water Color: Colorless.

Aquatic Vegetation: Maiden Cane, Cut Grass, St. John's Wort.

Bottom Type: Sand.

Depth: From shore the depth increases gradually to 26 feet.

Fluctuation: Underground springs have a stabilizing effect. It varies from 4 to 6 inches throughout the year.

Accessibility and Availability: Very poor, approximately 6½ miles of ungraded and unimproved

The adventurous angler will find an untapped population of bass and bluegills in Rattlesnake Pond.

sand. There are no landing sites other than the sandy shores.

Fishing History: Due to the lack of fishermen, no information could be obtained.

Best Fishing sites: Probably around the grass beds, in fairly deep water.

CATCHABLE FISH PRESENT Game Fish

Name	Relative Abundance
Largemouth Bass	Common
Bluegill	Abundant
Warmouth	Extremely Abundant

HOLMES CREEK

If for a few days the weather is fair and the rain absent, Holmes Creek assumes the bluish color of the spring boils that feed it along its course. This completes the varied picture of the Choctawatchee Watershed, from the muddy Choctawatchee and black Pine Log to clear Holmes Creek. Although spring fed for the most part, Holmes Creek has many of the fluctuation characteristics of the River. This is not the only common characteristic, for general fishing methods and principles are almost identical and produce practically the same results as the Choctawatchee.

One thing that should be mentioned here is the winter sucker fishing. When the spotted and redbone suckers start their spawning run, people line the banks to try their luck. A small, cork float and a strong cane pole baited with a gob of earthworms is the necessary equipment. A good, keen eye is also needed to detect the sucking bite.

No matter where you fish in Holmes Creek you will encounter the assorted, bait-stealing minnows



RATTLESNAKE POND

Photo by Ronald Higgins

which abound in these waters. Cracker fishermen solve this dilemma by tossing a hand full of oatmeal or corn-bread in from time to time. The minnows gather to feed on these tidbits and follow them down stream as the current sweeps them away, thus, giving the fishermen a few minutes of undisturbed fishing.

Date of Survey: 1958.

Length: Approximately 52 miles from the Alabama line to the Choctawhatchee River.

Location: Jackson, Holmes, and Washington Counties, Florida.

Aquatic Vegetation: Yellow Water Lily, Coontail Grass.

Bottom Type: Sand and mud.

Accessibility and Availability: Generally there are fairly good roads into Holmes Creek. There are many areas ideal for bank fishing, but boat ramps are almost absent. One ramp is located at Vernon, Florida (see map).

Fluctuation: Seasonal fluctuations of from 4 to 5 feet, local rains do not cause much change in the water level.

Fishing History: Very good for pan fish, especially shellcracker. Bass and pickerel fishing has also been good. Striped bass were once caught in good numbers but none have been caught in the past few years.

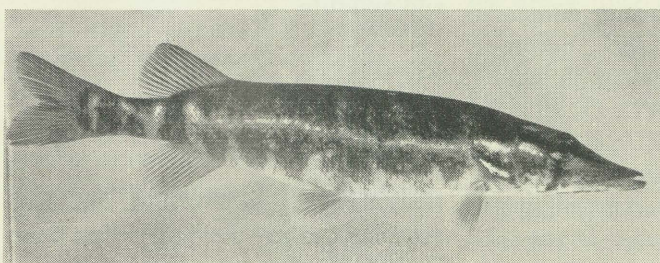


Photo by Wallace Hughes

The Redfin Pickerel, a small size "jackfish," is common in Holmes Creek.

Fisheries biologists, collecting sample fish species for study, put nets into the spring-fed waters of Holmes Creek.

This concludes the series of reports on the Choctawhatchee River Watershed, by Lake and Stream Survey Team No. 1, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. The complete report in booklet form, along with detailed charts of each body of water covered in the report, will soon be available, free of charge. For complete information, write to any of the Regional Offices listed on page 3, or to Fisheries Division, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Best Fishing Sites: In the main channel around snags, and tree tops. Sloughs and flood swamps in the lower section are also excellent.

CATCHABLE FISH PRESENT Game Fish

Name	Relative Abundance
Largemouth Bass	Abundant
Spotted Bass	Occasional
Rock Bass	Occasional
Striped Bass (Rockfish)	Seasonal
Chain Pickerel (Jackfish)	Common
Redfin Pickerel (Jackfish)	Common
Bluegill	Abundant
Shellcracker	Extremely Abundant
Warmouth	Extremely Abundant
Stumpknocker	Abundant
Speckled Perch (Black Crappie)	Common
Long-ear Sunfish	Common
(Chinkapin Bream)	
Dollar Sunfish (Chinkapin)	Abundant
Round Flier	Occasional
Alabama Shad	Seasonal

Non-Game Fish

Channel Catfish	Common
White Catfish	Occasional
Yellow Catfish	Common
Spotted Sucker	Abundant
Blacktail Redhorse	Abundant
Longnose Gar	Abundant
Spotted Gar	Common
Alligator Gar	Common
Striped Mullet	Abundant
Eel	Common
Eastern Chubsucker (Pond Sucker)	Occasional
Bowfin (Mudfish, Blackfish)	Abundant

Photo by Bill Hansen



OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

(Continued from Page 23)

panded when abuses of the past and present are replaced by sound range management techniques.

Some portions of Europe and the Middle East have what is termed a "goat economy," wherein many of the people are dependent upon those animals for a bare livelihood. It is frequently pointed out that the natural resources of these areas are so poor that they can sustain only the hardy goat. Less frequently pointed out, however, is the fact that the resources may be so poor because of the goat, an animal recognized as a close grazer!

Water in Its Watershed

Water has been described as the lifeblood of soil, with streams serving as arteries. All living things, including man, are dependent upon water. It is an indispensable resource in the over-all watershed picture.

The MULTIPLE-USE policy also is applicable to water resources. Water is valuable for domestic purposes (drinking, cooking, washing, etc.), industries, agriculture and recreation, including habitat for fish and wildlife. Described as "liquid gold" in arid regions, water is useful by its mere existence. Natural flows of water are harnessed for the generation of electric power. Even relatively stationary water, both fresh and saline, provides important avenues of navigation.

Water, like the soil it nurtures

and makes productive, must be protected. Sometimes in the form of snow or ice as well as rain, water should be held where it falls as long as possible through vegetative cover of soil in the watershed. Water so held does not rush into torrents which flood the valleys. Water so held seeps out gradually to provide sustained flows during times of little or no precipitation. Controlled water is a blessing; uncontrolled water can be a curse.

The Quality of Water

Unfortunately, some uses of water ruin or damage it for other purposes. Surface streams contaminated by domestic or industrial wastes become problems of good health. Polluted waters, unless adequately treated, cannot be used for domestic supplies. Many types of industrial and agricultural purposes afford recreation, including habitat for fish and wildlife. Improper watershed management results in the siltation of streams.

In view of increasing demands for water, its REUSE becomes more and more important in BALANCED CONSERVATION PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE. Quality, as well as quantity, becomes important. Water pollution control, presently a national disgrace, is imperative.

It is the obligation of every citizen to insist that water be returned to the stream in the same quality as when taken out! Research and management must be directed toward keeping as many wastes as possible out of the nation's streams! A maximum quantity of quality water, however, cannot be produced

unless there is proper management of the land.

Recreation and Watersheds

If watersheds are maintained in good condition, innumerable recreational opportunities become available to an innumerable host of citizens who enjoy the great unspoiled out-of-doors. There are more than 17,000,000 families—in excess of 25,000,000 people—who enjoy hunting and fishing each year. Yet these are only two easily measured phases of outdoor recreations which include swimming, camping, hiking, boating, nature study and picnicking. It is estimated that more than 70,000,000 people enjoy wildlife photography, the simple enjoyment of observing birds and animals in their natural environments.

Enjoyment of this sort can be maintained only through the proper management of renewable resources—if clean water and stabilized soil are available as sound bases for continued production and as the proper environment for domestic animals and wildlife.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT RECREATIONS, INCLUDING FISH AND WILDLIFE, BE ADEQUATELY RECOGNIZED AS PUBLIC BENEFITS OF MULTIPLE-USE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. Recreations are not recognized as beneficial uses of water in some western states.

Native wildlife made it possible to open the nation's frontiers and provided most of the food and clothing for pioneer communities. Furbearers were important factors in the exploration and colonization of vast areas of wilderness. And, wildlife provided the needs of individuals



NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK

MARCH 19-25, 1961

BOATING

(Continued from Page 9)

who wrestled great fortunes from the vast mineral wealth of the country and resulted in the basis for a modern mining industry. Unwise use and lack of proper management techniques completely eliminated some wildlife species and resulted in the extirpation of many from their extensive native ranges. So it is with wildlife, as with all other renewable resources, that wise use and proper management must be exercised if a maximum is produced and maintained for the benefit of today's citizens and their posterity. Modern research methods and scientific information collected by trained and competent technicians and administered by dedicated individuals free from petty partisan interests should form the basis for wise management of important wildlife resources.

Balanced Conservation Planning For the Future

Multiple use of land and water resources is a product of a modern industrial civilization or society. To survive as a civilization it is important that none of the natural resources be despoiled or wasted.

MULTIPLE USE applies to the many different purposes man has found for the land and water resources over which he was given dominion. The application of improved technology and scientific "know-how" has brought the present generation the highest degree of civilization the world has ever known.

The objective of MULTIPLE USE is to conserve and wisely use the nation's lands and waters in such manners that the greatest benefits in enjoyable living will result for the greatest numbers of people. The study of ancient history teaches that 19 of 21 civilizations perished from the face of the earth because of an inability to learn an existence cannot be maintained without the conservation of soil and water. To the end that this civilization will not become the 20th to so perish, each citizen should fully inform himself on the needs for conserving renewable natural resources. ●

handy for unfouling the propeller. These aquatic weeds and other growth are tough. One of the Sharons picked up a nice bass and a big thrill; the other had an equal thrill but no fish when she hooked, on bait, a husky fish that thrice broke her line. The fish stayed around and stared back sullenly from the depths of clear water at a spring hole. It was a grindle, or dog-fish.

Other sites of Forest-Service maintained facilities for boating and other water activities such as swimming and fishing are located at Lake Kerr in the northern section of the forest; Half-Moon Lake and some small bodies of water in western, Lake Dorr in the south-central tip and Alexander Springs and its spring-branch in the southeast corner. Information on this, and on Florida's other two national forests—Apalachicola in western Florida and Osceola in the Lake City-Orlando area—may be obtained by writing the office of the Regional Forester, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 50 Seventh St., N.E., Atlanta (23) Ga.

Some tips on handling a canoe, in case you're not familiar with this craft—it's gaining in popularity in Florida but is still a rarity:

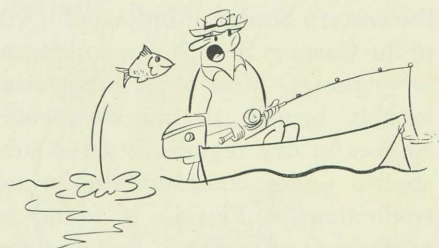
Load the canoe just a trifle bow-heavy—no more. The aluminum canoes available from the Forest Serv-

ice concessionnaire have seats and you can use them with safety most of the time despite the relatively high center of gravity. But . . . place the boat cushions on the bottom of the hull, just ahead of you, where you can slide down and use them for knee-rests in case the canoe threatens to tip. This puts your weight in the bottom—here it really belongs—and will add much to its stability. Preferentially, there should be no more than two persons per canoe, although three can be carried on the 17-footer. Generous use of a back-stroke with the paddle, at the stern, will do much to keep the canoe in line in negotiating bends. A mushroom-type mud anchor with about 20 feet of line will be handy for holding the canoe in a relatively stable position if you want to tarry a while working over a likely looking fishing spot.

Boat show dates in Florida include the Miami International Boat Show at the Dinner Key Auditorium, Feb. 17-22; the Tampa Outboard Marine Association show at Hesterly Armory, Feb. 22-27; and the Jacksonville Marine Association show, March 30 to April 2.

The Chicago National Boat Show, the country's largest exhibit which previously always has been held in February, this year has new dates and place: March 24 to April 2, at McCormick Place Exhibition Center on the Lake Michigan waterfront, only a few blocks from the Loop.

"Long overdue" department: For a considerable number of years many of us who boat in various parts of the country have been confused at times by the variances between the navigation and pilot rules on different bodies of water. The Western Rivers, Great Lakes and Atlantic and Gulf Inland waterways vary from each other—now, federal agencies and other interested trade and boatmen's organizations are having conferences in an effort to draft a uniform set of rules and regulations. ●



FILED

"BEAT IT! I want to be alone."

GAME MANAGEMENT NOTES

BY
E. B.
CHAMBERLAIN
JR.

ONE OF THE MOST INTRIGUING subjects in the whole field of wildlife management is the introduction and establishment of exotic species. It is a matter of much controversy and considerable risk. The history of introductions includes such sad mistakes as the mongoose and San Juan rabbit as well as such happy successes as the ringneck pheasant. In addition, the costly failures are countless.

In an effort to do away with both the costly failures and the successes which later are regretted, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service several years ago began, at the request of a number of state game departments, a careful program of exotic game introduction. This provides for a very careful evaluation and screening of possible desirable species in their native lands to judge their suitability in terms of climate, food habits, competition with native species, and sporting characteristics, among other factors. Species selected for trial are carefully quarantined to prevent introduction of any disease or parasites.

Florida began active participation in the program last year with the release of 40 Iranian pheasants in Hardee County. The Iranian pheasant is very similar to the ringneck which has proven to be such a spectacular success in the more northern parts of the country. However, it comes from a part of the world in which climatic conditions and habitat conditions are similar to those encountered in the Southeast. For this reason, it was felt by the specialists of the Fish and Wildlife Service that the Iranian might very well fit into the Southeast in the same fashion that the Mongolian ringneck does in the North. The birds which were actually released in Hardee County were the first generation crosses between the Iran-

ian and a sub-species of the better known ringneck. This cross was made in an effort to improve productivity. A number of the birds which were released last year in Hardee County are still under observation, but unfortunately it appears that reproduction was not successful. This may have been due to the fact that the birds were not obtained until March, which may have been too late in the year for successful breeding to take place after release.

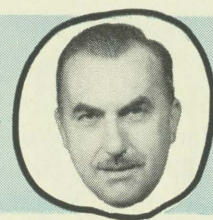
In any event, since the adult birds did survive, a second release of the same Iranian pheasants will be made in Hardee County in February. At the same time, an additional release of this species is planned for the Commission's Apalachee Wildlife Management Area on the Jim Woodruff Reservoir in Jackson County. It is felt that this area offers excellent possibilities for the establishment of the bird, since there is an excellent combination and interspersing of croplands and wooded areas. Corn is produced on much of the area which should make for excellent food supplies.

Two other species of which trial introductions will probably be made in 1961 are the black francolin and the red junglefowl. The francolin is a species of brushy, swampy or grassy habitats, while the junglefowl is primarily a woodland species. The black francolin occurs from Cyprus, southern Turkey and Palestine to the eastern border of India and north to the Caspian Sea. It is a nonmigratory species. Most of its sub-species inhabit brushy or marshy water courses in dry regions, but the sub-species under consideration for introduction in Florida is found in northern and eastern India where there is heavy rainfall with hot summers and mild winters. It prefers a habitat consisting of cultivated areas, weedy fields, and brushy woods.

The species is rather omnivorous, feeding on grain, grass seeds, wild legumes, other wild seeds, and considerable numbers of insects. It apparently does no harm to agricultural crops and is not expected to compete with quail or turkey. The bird usually breeds once a year between April and July, laying a clutch of six to ten eggs. Populations as high as a bird per acre have been observed in favorable habitat. The black francolin is an excellent bird for the table, weighing approximately a pound, and has good sporting characteristics. It normally flushes well, but it is inclined to run when subjected to much hunting pressure.

The red junglefowl is a species native to India and southeast Asia. It is somewhat larger than a bantam chicken and is generally believed to be the forerunner of certain domestic breeds of chicken. In its native land, the junglefowl is largely found in heavily wooded areas and is an exceptionally good sporting species. Certain strains have been found which seemed adapted to climatic conditions in Florida, and it is expected that a release of these birds will be made in the central portion of the state. The general procedure for handling the release of these exotics is to construct a fairly large holding pen at the release site and to keep the birds in this pen where they may be fed and watered for several days prior to the release. This enables them to become accustomed to the immediate territory and aids in keeping track of the birds after they are released from the holding cage. Automatic feeders are maintained at the release site to assist the birds in becoming acclimated to the new conditions. Even with all the care and precautions possible, however, it must be pointed out that the success of these introductions is problematical. Often large numbers of birds are required for a satisfactory release and since these species are expensive, releases must be spread over a period of several years. In any event, the approach must be slow and cautious.

WILDLIFE BALANCE WHEEL



BY
DENVER
STE. CLAIRE

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE in this issue a new program created in the Youth Conservation Education Section of the Game Commission. It is the First Annual Youth Conservation Exposition and is to be held during the summer months at the Youth Camp. The Exposition will be held at the same time as our 1961 Summer Encampment.

Eleven departments will participate in the Exposition. Included are: The Florida State Museum; The Central Florida Museum; The School of Forestry and Ranger School of the University of Florida; The United States Forest Service; Florida Forest Service; State Board of Conservation; Department of Water Resource; Soil and Water Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture; The Forestry Extension Service, Department of Agriculture; The Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission; and the State Parks Service.

It is our belief that these departments and agencies can bring a more complete Conservation message to our young people.

Talks, demonstrations, pictures, charts, maps, miniatures, before and after exhibits, films, slides, equipment will help in our resources use education program.

The various organizations listed above will train a special selected group of counselors to operate the expository exhibits during the summer encampment, and to instruct in the specific areas.

Besides the "fun" time and "free" periods the schedule will include classes in all of the various conservation units.

Add to all of this a basic background of Campcraft, a bang-up water-front program; put together our young camper has learned and at the same time has had fun.

Exposition dates will be June 11-August 5, 1961.

The participating units will be quartered under canvas. Present plans call for each unit to utilize a squad tent. Size of the tent will be 16 x 32 feet.

Groups will be assigned to different periods. Each period will last 30-45 minutes.

The week assigned for older boys will have longer periods. (Ages 13-16) Possibly one hour periods will be used.

With five full days for instructions, programming will include morning and afternoon sessions.

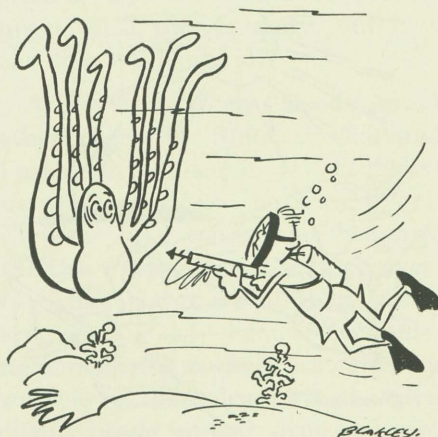
Nature and trail hikes and over night camping will be the order of the day.

Campcraft will be woven into the weekly camper's schedule.

Hunting safety as well as the safety and use of weapons will be offered the campers who desire to learn.

Instructions in soil and water will in all probability be offered in all four sessions; two in the morning and two in the afternoon.

The program marks a milestone in interagency and department cooperation, and we are grateful with the sincere interest and enthusiasm shown in their willingness to become actively engaged in the program.



A great big thanks is due to all Department Directors and their assistants.

It's a good feeling one gets when everyone wants to help make the project a tremendous success.

March 19-25, 1961 is National Wildlife Week. Once again the National Wildlife Federation is sponsoring the week. This year the theme is "MULTIPLE USE—BALANCED CONSERVATION PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE."

Mr. Walt Disney will serve as Honorary Chairman.

Don't forget that the last day, March 25 is Youth Conservation Day for our youth in Florida. Governor Bryant will proclaim the day as well as the week.

Our conservation and wildlife clubs will strive this year to raise \$3,000. Money raised in the past has been evenly distributed between the local unit and the League. This year the Adult Advisory Council has proposed to unite all monies collected and use the fund toward building another sanitation unit. The new unit would have extra facilities including a clothes wash room, etc.

So-o—if you are approached this year by a youngster who wants to "Tag" you and remind you that Conservation is everybody's problem; won't you smile and help his cause. Your day will seem much brighter.

For the second year the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs will assist the League and individual clubs. Last year's efforts were on a trial basis. From all reports this year there will be a concerted effort to organize as many groups both in the senior and junior division. They will aid in the collection of money for the Youth Conservation Camp's new sanitation building.

Civic and fraternal groups will be
(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from Preceding Page)

made aware of the week by the distribution of material. Material received from the National Wildlife Federation for Wildlife week will be distributed by the clubs. Young speakers will address the business men's groups, will appear on TV and radio.

League News

Although the League Directors in June decided to abandon their bulletin, there is considerable talk about creating a new tabloid sheet to bring the clubs closer together. Tom Ward has been discussing this with other members of the Board.

Tom Ward, president of the Youth Conservation Club League, has named the new delegates and alternates to the League. Alice Preston is the delegate for District No. 1. Her alternate is Jan Luychx. District #3 will be represented either by Mary Albritton, delegate, or Ruth McElvey, alternate. District #4 will have Matt Fultz, delegate, and Dave Schwartz, alternate. In District #5, Jimmy Worley was named delegate and Carlton Cooley is alternate.

The Youth Education Section

The Youth Conservation Education Section was invited to install a display of our Camp and its program in Sanford at the Civic Auditorium for the Eighth Annual Florida State Flower Show. About 27,000 people attended the show. The educational exhibit received a special award for the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

South Florida Camp

We have recently received a scale model of the Youth Camp located in South Florida in the J. W. Corbett area. It was prepared for us by the Palm Beach County Girls Junior Conservation Club and their advisors, Ann Diemer and Ruth Wheeler, and our good friend Earl Diemer.

Youth Conservation Camp Ocala National Forest

The Youth Conservation Camp received a \$10.00 check from the Ormond Beach Garden Club for the

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' Camp Building Fund. The fund now has approximately \$3,000 toward a new building at Camp.

We are in the process of having fifteen original sketches by staff artist Wally Hughes framed to hang out at the Youth Conservation Camp. These sketches cover all types of Florida wildlife and most have been published in the Florida Wildlife Magazine. Some have been completed and they will really be an addition to the Camp.

The long-awaited well for the Camp has finally been completed. . .

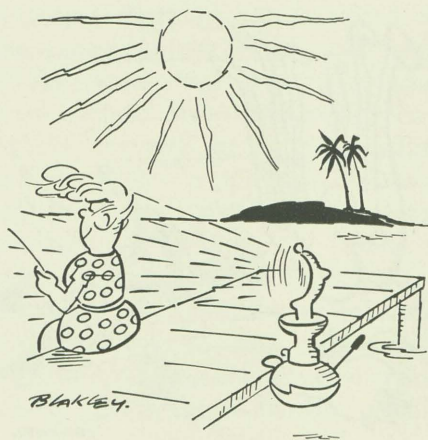
June 4-10 will be the training week for camp counselors. These counselors will be from other camps as well as the Youth Conservation Camp and will be sent invitations to attend. The training program will entail learning about conservation of our natural resources, counseling and campcraft. It is sponsored by the Game Commission and other related agencies.

Our new custodian, Mr. Herman Maurer, apparently is doing a worthwhile job at camp. He now has the jeep in running condition and is taking care of the bus. Other improvements can be discerned.

SPIN TACKLE BATTERY

(Continued from Page 13)

It is well adapted to the job and serviceable enough to suit anyone if of good quality.



It seems the Youth Conservation Education Program is beginning to attract attention on a broader scale. Recently we received a call from Louisiana and also one from Mississippi.

Mr. Joe Herring of the Information and Education Division of the Louisiana State Game and Fish Commission called wanting to pattern a program after ours.

The call from Jackson, Mississippi, was from Jack Warren, Jr., Director of Public Relations of their State Game Commission. He wanted all of our material on the Youth Conservation Education Program, particularly Junior Conservation Clubs and the Youth Conservation Club League.

* * * * *

All details for both the Junior Garden Club and the Camp Fire Girls conservation programs here in Florida, in conjunction with the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, are just about completed and in all probability will be launched in the next few months.

The Standard Operating Procedure for Tag Day has been revised and will be sent to you shortly. ●

In ultra-light spinning, you'll probably want a thin-walled glass rod to save an ounce or so. Impregnated bamboo of whisper weight does a good job here. Orvis makes a tiny thing of superlative quality.

However, although many fly fishermen go back to bamboo, the chronic spin-fisherman likes glass. In the first place, the spin-fisherman who uses no other method is generally a later model of sportsman who wasn't brought up on bamboo. In the second place, the hundred-buck spinning rod costs four times what most spin fishermen want to pay. They aren't used to high-priced rods.

So there you are.

If you have to spin for everything, five rods will do it.

I still think—but this is about spinning. ●

CAMPING AND COOKING



BY
LOU
MUSSLER

I USED TO THINK Chuck Schilling's monthly Q & A Department was, well, maybe padded to cover the many bits of information he did not wish to run column size. Q & A's can be short, snappy, to the point. Say little, cover much, in other words.

If the Sage of Jensen Beach will now accept my humblest of apologies, I was wrong. Dead wrong. WOW, do we get letters! Thanks much, Chuck, sometime you're around Indialantic, drop in and help me answer mine!

Q. Joe Suarez, Socorro, N. M., asks for information on a kerosene heater. Joe's packing a kerosene lamp and wishes to double up on the fuel business to heat his 9' tent in 15 degree and below weather.

A. Herter's of Waseca, Minn., stock a nice, light, compact 14" x 8" x 11" 8 pounder which keeps you warm up to 40 below on a quart of kerosene a day. Listed at \$9.95, and to you with postage prepaid is \$11.25. Add N. M. Taxes, if any. This is a nice vent-type unit; although I've never used kerosene, the wood burner throws off plenty of heat. Buy smoke pipe locally, and be sure to use the roof flange lined with asbestos. I haven't tried the air-cooled sheet metal rings on the roof—although they work nicely on the vertical flaps. **Caution:** However careful you are in keeping down smudge sparks, always prepare the canvas with the fireproof sizing in big doses. Can be bought locally.

Q. Al. Kempster, Duquesne, U. Pittsburgh, Pa., says he picked up a copy of Florida Wildlife in Columbia, S. C., on his way to Miami and wants to know what company makes a pocket type oiler that fits your

coat or shirt pocket. Says it's handy for the man who needs one.

A. There's an oiler of this type made by the Dill Company of Cleveland, O. I do not have one to photograph, but it's about half again the size of the average man's fountain pen, fitting nicely into your pocket, or small tackle-box divider. Some months ago a friend showed me one, demonstrating the oiler's efficiency. You can pinpoint a drop on the tiniest spot needing lubrication without spillover. I believe they cost about \$1.50 or so. Write the Dill Co., 700-E 82nd St., Cleveland 3, Ohio.

Q. Jim Freedman, Ossining, N. Y., wants to know which of Florida's State Parks has the largest number of campsites, Myakka or Flamingo.

A. Myakka last report had 98 tentsites. Flamingo isn't a State Park, Jim, it had 54 sites before Donna, and they've added some more. This lovely park is in the National Park domain, and for further information write the Sup't, Homestead, Fla.

Q. Alvis F. (I can't make out your name or address) postmarked Jacksonville, wants information on how to make hot water for showers in the "woods." The feminine handwriting says the writer of the request must shower daily, but how can this be managed?

A. If you mean by "woods" areas other than the State or National Parks, my advice is to (1) Draw shower water from nearest stream. (2) Heat luke warm over campfire. (3) Use washcloth and soap all over. (4) Take warm water from campfire, placing left hand on handle, right on pail's bottom protected by washcloth, take deep breath, give mighty heave into air, drop pail, run

like the dickens under falling water. (5) At the end of the sixth or seventh time you should be able to dry yourself as per usual. If this seems too much like work, forget the shower, and just use the pail. It's old fashioned, but effective. Otherwise see your local Sports Shop. They might know of a shower unit which doesn't require a truck to haul.

Q. (Name withheld) Are pets permitted in State Park campgrounds?

A. No. The Board of Parks and Historic Memorials have wisely adopted a policy of no-pets. While I realize many feel it wrong, nevertheless pets cannot be properly controlled if permitted to meander unchecked. Too, there's some who have noisy habits, barking and whining, for example; sanitation control is difficult; and many other reasons — including biting, getting lost, and upsetting garbage pails. The Parks Board received so many complaints from campers that they had no alternative. I agree.

Q. Where may I get information about aluminum cookery, asks Frank Willson, Clearwater. Meaning cooking with foil, he adds.

A. From the major Aluminum Companies, Frank. Ask for their booklets on outdoor camping or "outdoorsman" type. Unless you state it is for camping, you'll get the outdoor backyard booklets. Most sporting goods or hardware stores have these booklets. Alcoa had a nice one sponsored by Ashaway; Joe Bates Jr. did one for another company. They're free, just ask.

Q. Chas. (N or M) ixon wishes to know why his city of Tampa does not have more city camping facilities.

(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from Preceding Page)

A. Probably because somebody's used up all the vacant lots.

Q. Bob Keeler, Brooksville, writes and tells of his years with Bethlehem Steel up in Pennsylvania's "Souise Beslem" as he calls it. Bob doesn't have a question as such, but states he's a sea-food eater from way back. Also, having added some fine points to our "saurebraten und kartupfel klaise (sp) offers to exchange some Pennsylvania Dutch cooking recipes with me. Bob's very warm letter makes the writer feel humble in his knowing these little added sectionalisms of foods and things are welcome.

We're going to ask Bob to share his wonderful recipes with those wishing such information. Pennsylvania Dutch food is perhaps (in my opinion, at least) this country's heartiest. I do know, its variety has assumed many names—and wherever it leaves that particular, tantalizing zest there's no mistaking the food's origin.

Here's one for you: (Not Penna Dutch, but straight from Florida's hearth of many years ago.)

Make a thick heavy butter-batter of about 2 cups rice flour. Pour just enough skim milk to make workable. Add two finely chopped tiny onions, thumbnail size, stirring into batter. Add dash of hot sauce, 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard, 1/4 teaspoon vinegar, 1/4 teaspoon sugar, and 1/4 teaspoon baking powder. (Soda's OK). Stir slowly, until bubbly, let stand for 15 minutes. Prepare four or five panfish to fry. Clean, scale, wash, and dry with clean cloth or white towel. Take sharp knife and slit down back to hard backbone, but do not slice into sides. Pack three or four finely chopped dice-sizes of carrot, celery, and tart apple.

Fold back and tie with cord or wrap tight with baking cloth or aluminum. Make sure no holes are pricked into wrapper. Do not add any oils or fats.

Bake 25 minutes in home oven 350 degrees. In camp, place against

reflecting aluminum or shield. May also be baked in open pit, holding in double spittle over forked branch. Same cooking time. When batter has set for 15 minutes, beat into the mix 1 duck egg, or small goose egg. If not available, try to get a double yoke hen egg. Beat until arm is tired. By then fish should be ready for next step.

Remove fish, opening wrapper, pour off liquid. Fold into back and openings all batter, making sure plenty has been allowed to run under fish. Batter should just about cover fish. Take another cooking sheet and build up sides to prevent run-over by batter raising.

Place back into oven or campfire. Cook until top is dark brown. Remove and set on flat surface to cool slightly. Open sides, and if it appears doughy, you've cooked too hot, too quick. Cover, if this is the case, and cook some more. The trick, once learned, is to get the batter into the slit sections. When you lift, they do not stick to the meat. The head and tail may be removed, if you're agin' it bein' on. Be sure the gill cavity is closed enough to prevent the batter from forming bubbles while cooking.

Do not stick with fork, for one good hole will make it flatter'n Grandma's cake after Louie ran into her kitchen slamming every door in the house behind him! The secret, if you call it that, is not to add any fats or hardenings (That's what Grandma said) once the butter's been worked into the flour.

Serve with large lumps of butter on top then. It's good with any vegetable, and be careful as you cut the "pie." Separate each by section, and lift meat and skin away from bones. Rice flour has that "feel"—being a little heavier in body makes quite a difference. I use Dixie, or get what local ground happens to be available. Commercial duck or goose eggs can be found in most large restaurant food supply houses—I think.

If not, look up some farmer who's got some waterfowl about. Or ask your nearest hen-broker to save you some double-yokers! ●

HOLBROOK'S HOBBY

(Continued from Page 27)

est ranks, even though for the same degree of valor or merit. The lower ranks receive medal recognition of the same order, but of different class and of less ornate finish. In America, the deed rather than rank is the basis of selection for a particular medal award.

Among his more beautiful and prized pieces are the U. S. Navy Medal of Honor, French Legion of Honor and British Victoria Cross—all three made of gold, the Japanese Order of the Golden Kite, Belgium's Order of the Crown and the Spanish Military Cross, the highest military awards of each named country.

During the War Between the States only four medals were actually awarded to worthy persons; all others were belatedly bestowed—usually to persons long dead—by patriotic organizations, notably the Daughters of The Confederacy. The Cross of Honor, given by the Daughters; the Davis Guard Medal, by the Ladies of Houston; and the New Market Cross, by the alumni of Virginia Military Institute, were three such and are among Colonel Holbrook's collection pieces.

He makes every effort to obtain and group related originals. An example is the profile of the 1891 to 1920 naval service record of Clark Daniel Stearns, who graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1891. Colonel Holbrook has the original graduation diploma and later earned seamanship certificate, plus Stearns' dress hat, sea hat, swords, shoulder epaulets, pistols, medals and identification ribbon streamers of ships on which he served. Also in the group are the original papers commissioning Stearns as Captain, signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt when the former president was Secretary of the Navy. . . .

If—as the doctors say—an absorbing hobby helps to keep a person healthy, then seemingly Colonel Holbrook is headed for a long, interesting life. ●

FISHING

(Continued from Page 7)

"Round handles are for baseball bats."

I believe he is right. Maybe I can get someone to make me a hammer handle rod.

The truth is "hammer handle" rods are nothing new. It's just that I never really noticed the difference before. He was pretty persuasive, too.

Change of Pace

Late strikers, fish that are usually not too anxious, cause a lot of frustration among fishermen. Bass are chief offenders as are snook and tarpon and I have seen salt water trout especially exasperating.

The solutions range from addition of trailing tail hooks and the shortening of lures to Chuck Schilling's recommendation of a "stiff line so you can jam it down his throat."

Once the lure is in the water, however, and you can see it's being followed, a change of pace is about the only control you have. A quick speed-up, followed by a sudden slow-down may get results. The novice usually stops his retrieve completely—generally a poor practice.

I believe the speed-up is most likely to work. In casting and spinning lures, a bait that alters its action completely with a change of speed can teach you a lot about nibblers. For example, a bait that goes deeper when jerked is likely to find the depth at which the fish want their prey.

Of course, continued short strikes indicate a change of lure. I have caught a lot of short strikers on flies after they wouldn't latch on to plugs. Generally—not always—the short striker, swirler and nibbler is looking for something smaller. It is generally the big or noisy lure that creates excitement among sluggish fish—but that's not necessarily what they'll take. This dope may be a little vague but what do you want? A sure thing? ●

FIELD TESTS AND TELLS



To upland gunners, the bobwhite quail is a great game bird. To farmers, Gentleman Bob is a friend, a helpful destroyer of harmful insects.

Quail lovers of both groups are alarmed at the marked decrease of quail populations in some sections of the country. The farmer is inclined to blame the hunter for too ambitious, concentrated hunting; the hunter puts the blame on the farmer's doorstep, claiming his fence-to-fence methods of land clearing and crop planting have robbed the bobwhite of a fair chance to exist and reproduce his kind.

There is much talk of restocking depleted areas, but game biologists point out repeatedly that it is useless to restock areas unless such areas can support released birds in habitat that offers both adequate food and protective cover.

We can consider game as an annual crop to be harvested in the Fall as other crops but, as with farming, we must sow and protect to have the Fall harvest that constitutes good hunting.

In sections where natural or artificially introduced cover offers protection for released or native stock, sportsmen can do a lot of good by sustained supplementary feeding, especially during the closed-to-hunting months.

There are many mechanical game feeders on the market, but FWFT&T likes the construction, durability and efficiency of two types of feeders developed by the Merritt Bird Feeder Company, of Warwick, Georgia, after eight years of field experi-

mentation with homemade and manufactured types.

Best listing, in the opinion of FWFT&T, is the Merritt "Stock-Proof" model feeder, for use where quail and livestock are to be found on the same range. (Brahman cattle are particularly rough on any bird feeder of vulnerable design!) When curious cattle or hogs touch the specially-designed feeder with any pressure, spring tension causes the feeder to "fight back." Similarly, sharp spines on the outside of the feed cylinder help repel inquisitive stock.



Materials used in the construction of the model include 26 gauge galvanized iron for the feed hopper, 22 gauge for the skirt rim, 1/4 inch steel plate for the base, 30 pound thrust springs and 3/4 inch anchoring pipe. Overall height is 30 inches; width of rain skirt is 20 inches. Hopper diameter is 6 inches; capacity 9 1/2 quarts.

Feeder damage by livestock, feed waste by small animals and feed spoilage due to blowing rain can be forgotten when one uses the "Stock-Proof" model, FWFT&T has found. Retail price is \$10.50, F.O.B. Warwick, Georgia, if an order is for less than twelve.

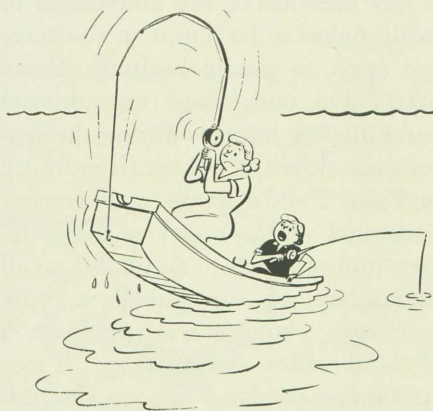
In game areas where livestock do not range, the less expensive "Woodlands" model, selling for \$6.95, can be used effectively. Like the "Stock-Proof" model, the "Woodlands" version is weatherproof, designed to discourage rats and squirrels and is of large feed capacity—eleven quarts. Its low silhouette, in combination with its wide diameter rain skirt close to the ground, makes this feeder virtually tip-proof. High winds do not affect it.

Overall height of the "Woodlands" model is 13 inches; width of rain skirt is 23 inches. Metal used is 26 gauge galvanized iron, and the treated wood base can be expected to last approximately ten years.

In both models, galvanized metal stitching is used in the construction, to avoid metal oxidation common to spot welding.

Replacement parts are standard, and carried regularly in stock should parts ever be needed.

The firm also makes a line of backyard type bird feeders.



"Hang on Ruth, this one could be a record."

MUZZLE FLASHES



BY
EDMUND
MCLAURIN

STRUCTURAL GRADE NYLON, known to the manufacturing trade as Zytel, is recognized as tough, durable material. But when Remington used it as a major component material for its Nylon 66 model semi-automatic .22 caliber rifle, a few quizzical eyebrows were raised here and there.

Now comes a report definitely establishing that Remington's engineers knew what they were doing when they selected nylon for certain mechanical parts of the little .22 plinking rifle.

Fairly recently, exhibition shooter Tom Frye used two identical Nylon 66 model .22 rimfires in a shooting marathon at Reno, Nevada, that lasted fourteen eight-hour days and represented 100,010 shots at 2¼-inch square, hand-tossed wood block targets. Two amazing results attended this shooting marathon.

First of all, the two Nylon 66 .22 rifles functioned perfectly all the way through the 100,010 shots Frye fired, without a single cartridge jam during the relentless demands on loading and ejection mechanisms.

Second, Frye hit all but six of the 100,010 hand-tossed wood blocks, breaking the fifty year record of Ad Topperwein, of only nine misses out of 72,500 shots fired at similar targets! . . .

Incidentally, the Williams Gun Sight Company, Davison, Michigan, has just announced new model receiver peep sights in both its FP and 5-D grades for the Remington Nylon 66.

For gun clubs and other sportsmen's groups having facilities for the showing of outdoor subject movies, I'd like to call attention to a new film—"Runways in the Wild," a 14½ minute, 16mm sound and color movie being released jointly by the

National Wildlife Federation, the Remington Arms Company and the U. S. Air Force.

Utilizing the hunting and conservation facilities at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, "Runways in the Wild" portrays a graphic account of how natural resources at certain defense installations are being managed for public recreation and other conservation goals.

In the film story, an Air Force crewman writes his father telling him of enjoyed outdoor experiences at Eglin Field. Via entertaining flash-back, the camera then visits many of the conservation projects referred to in the narration.

Film sequences were obtained through the cooperation of the Commanding Officer at Eglin Air Force Base, officials of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and members of the Florida Wildlife Federation, a state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Many of the conservation practices outlined in the film are applicable to both public and private lands. The film can be had from the sponsors for TV station showing and for projection before schools and sportsmen's groups throughout the country.

One thing the film does not include is any mention of the abundance of rattlesnakes to be found on the acreage open to public hunting. Some pretty big ones were encountered and killed by hunters during the season just closed. . . . As a friendly tip to Eglin Field's game management personnel, and as a service to sportsmen-hunters who annually avail themselves of the public hunting privileges, I suggest a simple method of eradicating rattlesnakes: Place strychnine-poisoned hen eggs in hidden clusters throughout the open-to-hunting acreage. The rattlers will

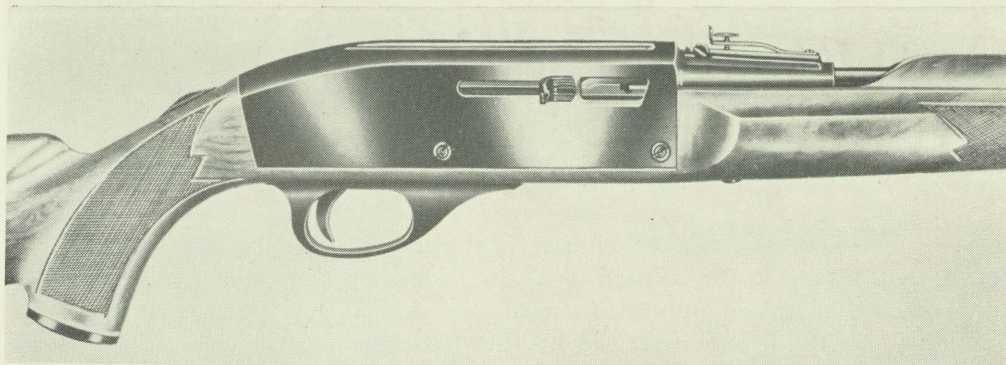
find and consume the lethal eggs—For the protection of any person who might find one of the egg clusters, each egg should be indelibly stamped "Poisoned Bait," possibly with added skull and cross-bones hallmark.

Credit for the idea should go to game biologists at the Dixie Lily Ranch and Shooting Preserve, near Williston, where rattlesnakes have been practically eradicated via the described method. Details as to exact dosage of strychnine to be injected hypodermically into each hen egg can be obtained by writing E. G. Smith, manager of the Dixie Lily Ranch.

Despite the availability of a variety of modern, faster firing gun models, many gun owners are seemingly reluctant to retire obsolete guns of family heirloom classification. Especially is this true of old shotguns, many of which were not designed for present day powders. As gun editors point out repeatedly, it is risky to use shotguns having damascus (laminated iron and steel) barrels with smokeless powder loads, even light field and target loads. Better to retire such guns altogether, polish 'em up and use them solely as wall decoration and conversation pieces.

Those with fluid steel barrels, in good mechanical condition, are in another category entirely. Many of these can be safely fired with present day powder loadings. But don't assume! Have a competent gunsmith examine your old shotgun and tell you whether or not it was made to handle black powder loads only, or whether its barrel composition is nitro-proofed steel. This is probably the umpteenth time this advice has been given by a gun editor. However, there is always a Doubting Thomas needing it. . . .

Besides wishing to keep family



The Remington Nylon 66 model .22 caliber semi-automatic plinking rifle. This month's report tells how two of these guns held up in a 14-day, fast shooting marathon, by exhibition shooter Tom Frye, at Reno, Nevada.

firearms heirlooms in service as long as they will hold together, many owners understandably desire to know the approximate age of the old guns. There seems to be an especial curiosity about the probable age of old Ithaca, Lefever and Western double and single barrel model shotguns. . . . Many of the models have not been manufactured for years; Lefever Arms Company, for example, went out of business around 1916, and Ithaca has stopped producing side-by-side doubles although enjoying a growing business in repeating models. . . .

After considerable research by many interested persons, an age identification serial number list of known early Ithaca, Lefever and Western shotgun manufactures has been compiled. The list is too long for full inclusion in this column, but pertinent gleanings can be cited for information and guidance.

If you have a Baker model Ithaca double barrel shotgun with serial number between 1 and 10,534, then it was made sometime between 1880 and the last half of 1889. If your old shotgun is an Ithaca Crass model, its birthday was sometime between 1892 and 1903. Likewise, any Lewis model Ithaca double numbered between 94,109 and 123,677 was made sometime between the years 1904 and 1906, and any Manier model, from serial number 130,000 to 151,770, dates back to the calendar period 1906-1908.

Very popular were the Flues models and single and double barrels, made by Ithaca between the years 1908 and 1926, beginning with serial number 175,000 and ending with number 398,365.

Any Ithaca double of 425,000 serial number or higher can be classed as being manufactured during or after 1925.

Lefever Nitro Special model double guns embrace the years 1921 to 1947, inclusive, beginning with serial number 100,000 and ending with serial number 361,199. Lefever A grade shotguns have a record of manufacture from 1934's serial number 300,000 to 1939's serial number 302,496. Any Lefever double barrel shotguns bearing serial numbers under 100,000 were built by the original Lefever Arms Company, prior to 1916, and do not embrace Ithaca manufactures.

Single barrel Lefever shotguns numbered from 1 through 24,607 were made sometime between 1929 and 1942, the year of discontinuance.

Western Long Range model double guns represent manufactures between the year 1929 and 1946 and embrace serial numbers from 1 to 65,779.

If you have an old Ithaca, Lefever or Western shotgun whose probable age cannot be traced within the range of cited serial numbers and known year manufactures, then I suggest you write the Ithaca Gun Company direct—at Ithaca, New York—for more specific information. ●

BEHOLD, THE FISHERMAN

(Continued from Page 21)

(shiner) man. He honestly believes that a man is not only foolish but also is wasting his time and strength casting and recasting wooden plugs or any other lures. He is convinced that the bigger the shiner, the big-

ger the bass he'll catch. He has his own set of rules regarding the distance to let the fish run with the shiner before setting the hook. He also swears by a 20-pound test line—thinks it downright stupid to take a chance losing a lunker with a tiny line of 10 pound test.

Not until it is almost dark is our avid fisherman ready to quit. He finally gets home, dog-tired, dirty and hungry as an old mossback. His sweet little wife meets him at the back door looking not too loving nor too sweet.

The conversation, mostly one sided, goes about like this: "Yes, dear, we came straight home. No, dear, we didn't stop at the tavern; at least, we didn't stop long. Well, to tell the truth, we did have one each—only one, that's all! Yes, dear, I'll get out of these wet clothes. No, dear, I'm not tracking dirt all over the house. Yes, dear. No, dear. Yes, dear. . . ." ●



BREED DEVELOPMENT of dogs throughout the years has a most interesting story. Some modern dog breeds were created out of existent canine material by specific persons, following austere scientific principles to attain an ideal end. The names of these creators are known, the dates and places of their labors are items of recorded history.

Actually the development of such “regional” dogs was not just happenstance. These breeds were “folk” creations. They were born out of the needs of a community, in the same fashion that a regional folk music developed, or ancient balladry, or throughout the history of language, language itself.

Examples of the first, or "tailor-made," category include, among others, the re-creation of the ancient Irish Wolfhound by Captain G. A. Graham (a Scot) during 1862-85; the creation (1850-91) of the Sealyham Terrier by Captain John Edwardes in Wales; and the development and definition of the English Setter during 50-odd years following 1825 by Edward Laverack and R. L. Purcell Llewellyn.

American examples of the “folk” category include the Coonhound, the old-fashioned American farm collie, the American Water Spaniel, the Chesapeake Bay Dog (a retriever), and the Alaskan Malamute.

Actually most of the approximately 250 breeds of dogs now recognized as “purebred” throughout the world belong in the “folk created” category—but have been standardized, refined, and in most cases improved by the scientific procedures of particular breeders who have stressed certain characteristics as the most useful or desired.

A completely revised edition of the "Where to Buy, Board or Train a Dog" directory, published and distributed as a public service by the Gaines Dog Research Center, is now available for interested parties, according to J. R. Farris, director of the Gaines Professional Services Department.

The directory promotes the sales of puppies as well as the boarding and training services of kennels who are members of the Gaines Professional Feeder Plan. It lists by states and communities dog breeders, boarding kennels and training kennels, together with the breeds kept and/or the boarding or training facilities offered. It also contains valuable helps on buying a puppy.

For your free copy write to,
Gaines Professional Services De-
partment, 275 Cliff Street, Battle
Creek, Michigan.

* * *

In Seattle, Wash., dogs are legitimate patrons of the transit system. They even rate transfer privileges. The system recognizes three



"He's part UPsetter and part DISAPpointer."

varieties of dogs; blind persons' dogs, lap dogs and non-lap dogs.

A blind person's dog can ride coaches at any time unless some other dog gets on before he does. Only one dog for each coach—that's a firm rule. Blind persons' dogs are carried free of charge except during the rush hours; at that time they must pay full fare and are accorded transfer privileges.

Other dogs can ride during non-rush hours only. Lap dogs ride free, while bigger dogs pay full fare and can transfer. When asked to define a lap dog, the Seattle Kennel Club said it is a dog 20 pounds or less. The transit system went along with that definition.

Dogs are not allowed to sit on coach seats, even if they pay full fare. Lap dogs presumably can sit on laps—the transit system document isn't explicit on that.

Cats are not mentioned in the document. Possibly this is because they weigh under 20 pounds and thus pay no fare. The transit system hauls quite a few cats. An unwritten rule is a cat and a dog cannot ride the same bus.

The rule book doesn't say a dog has to be accompanied by a human being. If a dog has the fare, there's no reason why he can't take a ride if he wants to.

* * *

West Hartford, Conn., Five-year old John Boyle's tricycle is dachshund-powered.

* * *

Prescot, England. James Halliwell was fined \$108 for drunken barking. Police said that Halliwell got down on all fours and barked back at a dog who barked at him as he was entering his car. They said he thus incited an entire neighborhood of dogs to bark. Halliwell finally acknowledged he'd had four or five—or maybe six pints of beer. ●

FLORIDA

Know Your FLORIDA FISHES

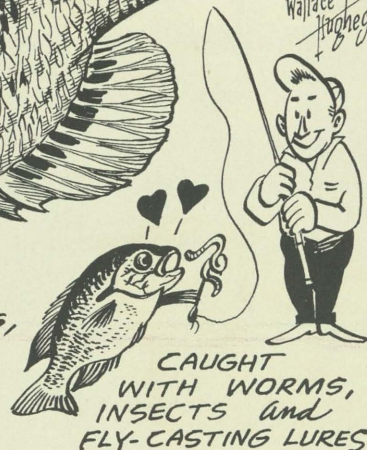
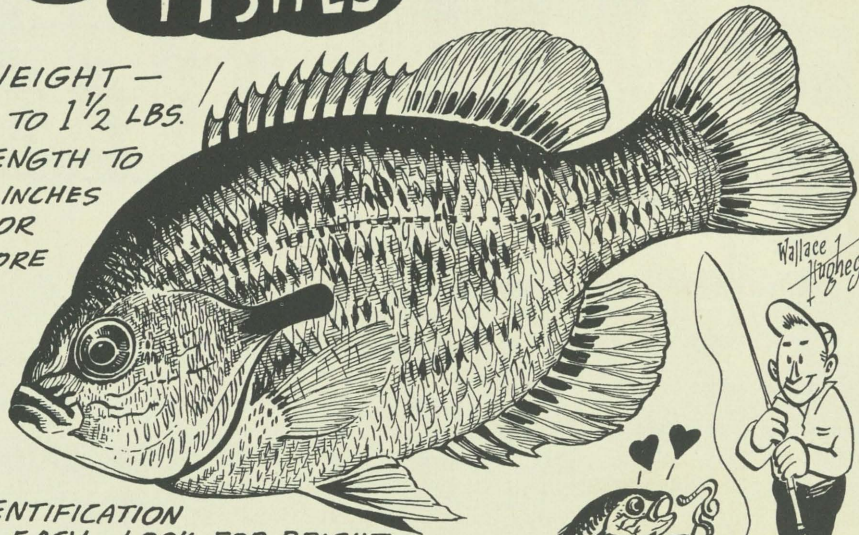
THIS BRIGHT-COLORED BREAM INHABITS THE FAST MOVING WATERS OF MOST OF FLORIDA'S STREAMS— IS SOMETIMES CALLED "RIVER BREAM"

WEIGHT—
1/2 TO 1 1/2 LBS.
LENGTH TO
11 INCHES
OR
MORE

IDENTIFICATION
IS EASY—LOOK FOR BRIGHT
RED OR ORANGE BREAST AND LONG,
NARROW BLACK EAR FLAP

The REDBREAST

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION



CAUGHT
WITH WORMS,
INSECTS and
FLY-CASTING LURES

FOUND IN STREAMS, PONDS
AND BRACKISH WATERS
OF FLORIDA—WORMS, BUGS
and FLY FISHING
LURES WILL
CATCH
'EM!!

Wallace
Hughes

Know Your FLORIDA FISHES

LENGTH—
UP TO 8 INCHES
WEIGHT—
TO
1
POUND

IDENTIFYING
MARKS—

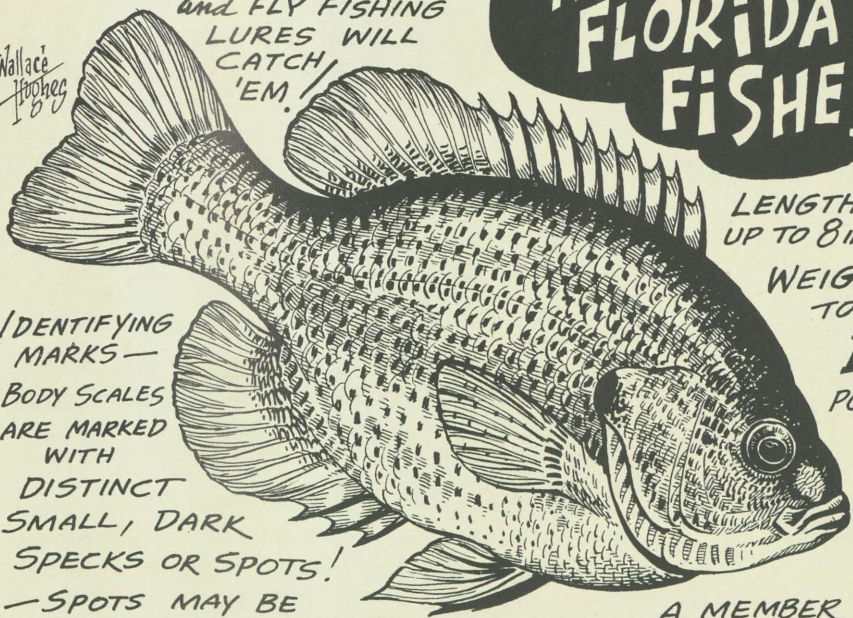
BODY SCALES
ARE MARKED
WITH
DISTINCT
SMALL, DARK
SPECKS OR SPOTS!

—SPOTS MAY BE
REDDISH, BLUISH OR BLACK

The STUMPKNOCKER

A MEMBER OF
THE BREAM
(BRIM) FAMILY—
SOMETIMES
CALLED
"SPOTTED SUNFISH"

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION



WILDLIFE SCRAPBOOK



BREAM FISHING, St. John's River

Photo by Wallace Hughes

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